

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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OLD SOLDIERS NEVER DIE



By Rev. W. Herschel Ford, D.D.
Pastor, First Baptist Church, El Paso, Texas

"For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."—II Tim. 4:6-8.

Sometime ago General of the Army, Douglas MacArthur, was relieved as United Nations Commander in the Far East. Some people say that this was one of our President's biggest mistakes. I never bring politics into the pulpit. I do not know what would happen if MacArthur's policies were carried out in the Orient—but I do know this—he did a grand job in Japan. When he went to Japan, he said that the remaking of that nation was a "theological question." He felt that it was a matter of their getting right with God. He called on us for one thousand missionaries. We haven't sent that many, but we have sent a large number and some of the greatest revivals in modern history have been held in Japan. Because of MacArthur's matchless leadership and all the other contributing factors, Japan is a different country today. MacArthur deserves great praise for the work which he did over there.

When the General came back to America after fourteen years abroad, he made a speech to the American Congress, one of the finest and most dramatic speeches ever heard in America. At the end of the speech he quoted an old song of the army, with the title, "OLD SOLDIERS NEVER DIE."

But I have not come today to talk to you about MacArthur; you can read about him in the newspapers and magazines. I want to tell you of another old soldier, an old soldier of the cross, whose name was Paul. He, too, was coming down toward the end of the way. He said: "I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall

give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (II Tim. 4:6-8). In a little while his head will roll off the block and they will pronounce him dead. But his soul, his spirit, the real Paul, will be living on forever and ever with the Christ whom he loved. It is true that old soldiers of the cross never die.

I. Paul Had a Great Career as a Soldier

There was a time when he hated Christ and the cross. He fought against the cause with all the zeal and fervor of his soul. But one day on the Damascus road the Mighty Captain of salvation halted him. Christ saved him and transformed him and from that day on, he became the greatest and most effective soldier Jesus ever had.

Paul was a strange man. When he gave his life to Christ who saved him, he felt that he ought to give all of himself to the Saviour. So he said that he was dead to the

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THE EDITOR'S Notes

by John R. Rice

I WISH I COULD share with you all of my mail for a week. It would certainly be an eye-opener. Letters almost daily from foreign countries, letters from preachers, letters asking Bible questions, letters pleading with me to come for revival services, letters asking counsel about entering the ministry or about home problems.

One of the best evangelists of the Christian Church writes me for counsel. He believes people are saved by grace through faith before baptism, he feels the need to get into a larger ministry for the Lord in soul winning. What shall he do? A Seventh-Day Adventist pastor writes me; he has been greatly blessed by THE SWORD OF THE LORD but wants the answer to his questions about the Sabbath. A recent word in THE SWORD OF THE LORD about consumer products and socialism leads a reader of THE SWORD OF THE LORD whose life's work is in farmer co-operatives to write me and send literature. What is wrong with them? I answer telling how farmer co-operatives should pay taxes just like other businesses should and how the propaganda against "big business" is un-American, unchristian and false. Well, I cannot

What Think Ye Of Christ?

B. C. Downs

Pilate, what do you think of this man? "I find no fault in Him at all."

Judas? "I have sinned in that I have betrayed innocent blood."

Centurion, what is your testimony concerning this One? "Truly, this was the Son of God."

Demos, what is your word? "This was the Son of God."

John the Baptist? "Behold the Son of God that taketh away the sin of the world."

And John? "He is the Bright and Morning Star."

Peter? "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God."

Thomas, What is your testimony? "My Lord and my God."

Paul, what do you think of Christ, "I count all things loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord."

Angels in heaven, what is your testimony? "Unto you is born a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

And our Heavenly Father? "This is My beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased."

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tell you all of the mail that comes but I will mention some that will be of interest to you.

AN EPISCOPAL RECTOR, DR. Charles H. Harrison, New York City, writes as follows:

"Dear Dr. Rice:

"So you want those letters! Well, here's one from a Priest of the Episcopal Church—and it's little enough considering the interest I find in your paper, 'THE SWORD OF THE LORD.'"

"I believe that the Holy Catholic Church—and that's not limited to the Roman part of it—was in existence for three hundred years before there was any Bible as such, and for fourteen hundred years before there was any printed Bible; therefore, I'm Church conscious. Excuse me for saying that; for I am what I am.

"I also believe, however, that the section of the Faith which you hold—the necessity of Repentance, faith in our Lord's death on the cross to atone, and forgiveness of others—is taught more effectively by your people and by your paper than by us. I find it to be so much more effective, at this point and under your presentation, that your paper fascinates me and helps me more than I can say.

"I would be grateful for a copy of your pamphlet, *Bloody Hands and How to Cleanse Them*; and

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The Sinner's Refuge

By the late Charles H. Spurgeon of London

"Then ye shall appoint you cities to be cities of refuge for you; that the slayer may flee thither, which killeth any person at unawares."—Num. 35:11.

You are aware that the principle of blood revenge is a deep-seated one in the eastern mind. From the oldest ages it was always the custom with the Orientals, when a man was murdered or slain by chance-medley, for the nearest relative, his heir or any person related to him, to take revenge for him upon the person who, either intentionally or unintentionally, was the means of his death. The revenger of blood would hunt his victim for forty years—ay, until he died, if he was not able to reach him before—and would be at his heels all his life, that he might slay him.

God, instead of refusing to the Jews what they regarded as the privilege of taking vengeance, passed a commandment which rendered it impossible almost that a man should be killed unless he were really a murderer; for He appointed six cities, at convenient distances, so that when one man killed another by chance-medley and committed homicide, he might at once flee to one of these cities; and though he must live there all his life, yet the avenger of blood could never touch him, if he were innocent.

He must have a fair trial; but even if he were found innocent he must stay within the city, into which the avenger of blood could not by any possibility come. If he went out of the city the avenger might kill him; he was therefore to suffer perpetual banishment, even for causing death accidentally, in order that it might be seen how much God regarded the rights of blood, and how fearful a thing it is to put a man to death in any way. And we see that this prevented the likelihood

of anyone being killed who was not guilty; for as soon as one man struck another to the ground by accident, by a stone, or any other means, he fled to the city of refuge. He had a start of the pursuer; and if he arrived there, he was secure and safe.

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Charles H. Spurgeon

"OUTSIDE THE GATE"

What It Means

By Evangelist John R. Rice

"We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle. For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp. Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come."—Heb. 13:10-14.

Last week in *The Sword of the Lord* we published the message, "Outside the Gate With Jesus." We told about the bullock for the sin offering mentioned in the Scripture above, described very fully in Leviticus 4:1-12. We showed that the blood fat, sacrificed in the tabernacle temple, pictured the atoning death of Christ for sinners. But the body burned outside the camp pictured the despised and rejected Saviour. And Christians ought to be willing to take on the reproach of Christ and suffer persecution for His sake. Here we give the concluding part of that message.

IV. What It Means for a Christian to Bear the Reproach of Christ

Yes, we have a sacrifice which they have no right to eat which served the tabernacle. For we are told that "the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp." And let us turn back again and see what was involved in the body of that beast carried outside the camp.

In Leviticus 4:12 we read:

"Even the whole bullock shall he carry forth without the camp unto a clean place, where the ashes are poured out, and burn him on the wood with fire: where the ashes are poured out shall he be burnt."

1. The Body of the Bullock Was Carried to a Clean Place. So Christians, to Have the Reproach of Christ, Must Live Cleanly

The Lord Jesus is different from the world. We should be different from the world also. I do not have space here to take up all the questions of smoking, even moderate drinking, dirty picture shows, promiscuous necking and petting, the dance, and such evils. But I think that surely any Christian ought to know that a Christian should be different. I believe a Christian ought not to smell like a lost sinner, because he ought not to have the same habits. I believe that a

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Rev. W. Herschel Ford

The Gospel at a Glance

By Charles L. Ramsay

THE THREEFOLD REVELATION OF GOD



The HEAVENS declare the glory of God.

Psalms 19:1



The LAW of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul.

Psalms 19:7

in the soul



Let the words of MY MOUTH, and the meditation of MY HEART, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.

Psalms 19:14

Artist Charles L. Ramsay draws original Christian cartoons similar to the above which appear in THE SWORD OF THE LORD weekly. A collection of his best work appears in the book, *101 Christian Cartoons*, which sells for \$1 per copy and may be had from Sword of the Lord Publisher, Wheaton, Illinois.

Old Soldiers Never Die

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old life, and that he was living only for Christ. He said that a soldier didn't entangle himself in the affairs of this world; that if he did this, he couldn't do his best as a soldier, and he couldn't please his master.

Christians need to learn this lesson today. Too many of them are mixed up with the things of this world. Thus their powers become dissipated and they are not able to do anything for God. When we ask them to do something for the Lord and to be faithful to the church, they tell us that they are too busy. When you are too busy to do something for God, you are busier than God wants you to be. Paul also said that a soldier of the cross must learn to endure hardness. He was certainly a worthy example of this great truth. When he came to Christ, his family and friends turned against him. Often he was placed in prison; many times he was beaten with stripes. He suffered the heat of the summer and the cold of the winter. He was shipwrecked three times. Once he was stoned and left for dead. But he could say, "The Lord stood by me in it all." In spite of all that happened, he rejoiced to suffer for Christ's sake. He said: "Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake" (II Cor. 12:10).

No man ever suffered for Christ as he did. Here is the list in II Corinthians 11:23-28. . . "In stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in

perils in the sea; in perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.

Have we ever suffered anything for Christ? Have we ever made a sacrifice for Him? Paul did this and he calls on us to do the same thing in *Romans 12:1*, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

Paul's life was marked by the highest loyalty to his great Commander-in-Chief, the Lord Jesus

Christ. On one occasion Latimer, the great Christian martyr of England, announced that he would preach on a subject forbidden by the king. Just as the service started, the king and his company entered and took their seats. When Latimer stood up to preach, he did a dramatic thing. He walked back and forth in the pulpit, saying, "Latimer, thy king heareth thee. Be careful what you say." Then he stopped at the pulpit, put his hand on the Bible, looked up to Heaven, and said, "Latimer, thy Lord heareth thee. Be careful what you say." He then went on to preach the powerful sermon which he had prepared for that occasion. At the close of the service, the king came up and said to him, "God bless you, Latimer. I love and respect a man who fears God more than he fears his king." That was like Paul. He was loyal to Christ above everything else on earth.

II. The Old Soldier Looks Back on Life

"I have fought a good fight," he said. He looked upon life as a battle to be fought, a victory to be won. He said on one occasion that he was not fighting flesh and blood, but the evil hosts of Satan. This is a fight which never ends this side of Glory.

In the first place, Paul had to fight himself. He said, "I have been saved, but the old carnal nature is still present. I want to be absolutely free of sin, but I am having a desperate fight. There are two natures in me. The flesh and the spirit are both there, and they are always fighting, the one against the other. The things that I would do, I do not. The things that I ought not to do, I do." Then he tells us where the victory comes in. "But thanks be unto God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (I Cor. 15:57).

We are just like that. We are surrounded by all sorts of temptations. They are on the right of us, the left of us, in front of us, behind us. We are bounded by temptations on the North, the South, the East and the West. We often give in, we let the Devil defeat us, then we are miserable indeed. But on other occasions we pray, we overcome temptations through the power of Christ, and then our hearts are flooded with happiness.

He also had to fight the enemies of the gospel. They knew how faithful he was to Christ, so they tried in every way to hinder him and to block his testimony for the Lord. These enemies are still alive today. When we Christians set out to make our lives count for Christ, they get busy and try to ruin our

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Dr. Bob Jones Says:

This is being dictated just before I leave for an eight-day evangelistic campaign under a big tent on the grounds of the church where I was converted. When I was a country boy at the age of eleven, I was converted in a revival in this country church, five miles west of Dothan, Alabama. I began preaching before I was fifteen years old. Four years after my conversion, I conducted a series of meetings in the same church, and Allen Smith, a boyhood friend, was converted in my revival. Later Allen went to college and became an outstanding Baptist minister. He has held some of the leading pastorates in Alabama and other states and has also been successful in the evangelistic field. He has now returned to the old home community, built a home, and is living there. He and I are going to conduct this eight-day evangelistic campaign.

My boyhood home is located just four miles from this country church. The bodies of my father and mother and all of my brothers and sisters sleep in a country cemetery just three miles from this Southeast Alabama country church where both Allen Smith and I were converted.

I cannot realize that I am sixty-seven years of age and that fifty-six years ago I became a Christian, and it is harder still to realize that I have been preaching the Gospel for fifty-two years. My work has taken me into all the states and thirty foreign countries, and I have had the honor of

preaching face to face to more people than any other preacher in the world. Little did I realize the night I was converted at the age of eleven and, of course, did not realize when Allen Smith was converted four years later that after fifty years, he and I would be united in an evangelistic campaign on the grounds where the little church where we were converted is located.

If I could not have borrowed some money when I was a boy, I would not have been able to have gone to college and receive training for the ministry. If I could not have borrowed some money, Bob Jones University, which is the fastest-growing Christian school in America and which has become the base of a world-wide Gospel testimony, would probably never have been in existence. You friends can understand why we are so eager to raise \$1,000,000 for our Student Loan Endowment Fund so we can help young people who are not able to pay in full all their expenses in our University. We are asking God to move upon the hearts of all of you Christian people so you will keep on sending in financial contributions until we reach the million dollar goal.

Please pray for us; and as the Lord moves on your heart, help us with a financial contribution. Thank you and God bless you.

BOB JONES, Founder
Bob Jones University
Greenville, S. C.

(Advertisement)

THE GLORY OF CHRIST'S OFFICE

By the late Dr. F. B. Meyer

"He hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name."—Heb. 1:4.

Apart from Scripture, we should have been disposed to infer the existence of other orders of intelligent and spiritual beings besides man. As the order of creation climbs up to man from the lowest living organism through many various stages of existence, so surely the series must be continued beyond man, through rank on rank of spiritual existence up to the very steps of the eternal throne. The divine mind must be as prolific in spiritual as it has been in natural forms of life.

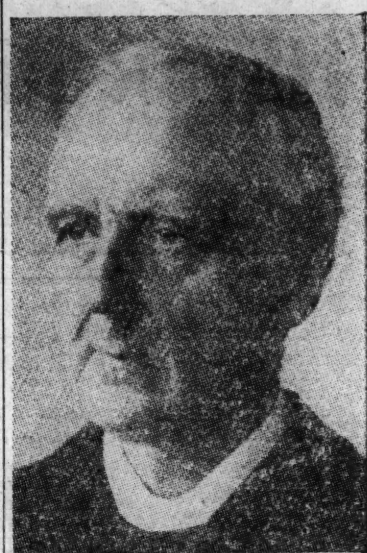
But we are not left to conjecture. From every part of Scripture come testimonies to the existence of angels. They rejoiced when the world was made, and they are depicted as ushering in with songs that new creation for which we long. They stood sentries at the gate of a lost paradise; and at each of the twelve gates of the New Jerusalem an angel stands (Rev. 21:12). They trod the plains of Mamre, and sang over the fields of Bethlehem. One prepared the meal on the desert sands for Elijah; another led Peter out of jail; and a third flashed through the storm to stand by the hammock where the Apostle Paul was sleeping (Acts 27:23, 24).

But in the mind of the pious Hebrew the greatest work which the angels ever wrought was in connection with the giving of the law. The children of Israel received the law "as it was ordained by angels" (Acts 7:53, R.V.). It was necessary, therefore, in showing the superiority of the gospel to the Law, to begin by showing the superiority of Him through whom the gospel was given, over all orders of bright and blessed spirits, which, in their shining ranks and their twenty thousand chariots, went and came during the giving of the decalogue from the brow of Sinai (Psa. 68:17).

It is not difficult to prove the Lord's superiority to angels. It is twofold: in Nature and in Office.

In Nature.—"He hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they" (vs. 4). In verse 7, quoted from Psalm 104:4 (R.V. marg.), where they are distinctly spoken of as messengers and ministers, they are compared to winds and flames—winds, for their swiftness and invisibility; flames, because of their ardent love. But how great the gulf between their nature, which may thus be compared to the elements of creation, and the nature of that glorious Being whom they are bidden to worship, and who is addressed in the sublime title of Son! (Heb. 1:6; Psa. 97:7.)

In Office.—In verse 14 they are spoken of as ministering spirits, "sent forth to do service for the sake of them that shall inherit salvation" (R.V.). This liturgy of service is a literal fact. When struggling against overwhelming difficulties; when walking the dark, wild mountain-pass alone; when in peril or urgent need—we are surrounded by invisible forms, like those which accompanied the path of Jesus, ministering to Him in the desert, strengthening Him in the garden, hovering around His cross, watching His grave, and accompanying Him to His home. They keep pace with the swiftest trains in which we travel. They come unsoiled through the murkiest air. They smooth away the heaviest difficulties. They garrison with light the darkest sepulchers. They bear us up in their hands, lest we should strike our foot against a stone. Many an escape from imminent peril; many an unexpected assistance; many a bright and holy thought whispered in the ear, we know not whence or how—is due to those bright and loving spirits. "The good Lord forgive me," says Bishop Hall, "for that, amongst my other offenses, I have suffered myself so much to forget the presence of His holy angels." But valuable as their office is it is not to be mentioned in the same breath as Christ's, which is set down for us in this chapter.



F. B. Meyer

He Is The Organ of Creation

"By whom also he made the worlds." To make that which is seen out of nothing, that is creation: it is a divine work; and creation is attributed to Christ. "By him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth." "All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made" (Col. 1:16; John 1:3). But the word here and in 11:3 translated *worlds* means *ages*. Not only was the material universe made by Him, but each of the great ages of the world's story has been instituted by Jesus Christ.

When genius aspires to immortality, it leaves the artist's name inscribed on stone or canvas; and so Inspiration, "dipping her pen in indelible truth, inscribes the name of Jesus on all we see—on sun and stars, flower and tree, rock and mountain, the unstable waters and the firm land; and also on what we do not see nor shall, until death has removed the veil—on angels and spirits, on the city and heavens of the eternal world."

This thought comes out clearly in the sublime quotation made in verse 10 from Psalm 102. That inspired poem is obviously inscribed to Jehovah: "Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the work of thy hands." But here without the least apology, or hint of accommodating the words to an inferior use, it is applied directly to Christ. Mark the certainty of this inspired man that Jesus is Jehovah! How sure of the deity of his Lord! And what a splendid tribute to his immutability!

Mark how the Epistle rings with the *unchangeableness* of Jesus, in His human love (13:8), in His priesthood (7:24), and here in His divine nature (vv. 10-12). We live in a world of change. The earth is not the same today as it was ages ago, or as it will be ages on. The sun is radiating off its heat. The moon no longer as of yore burns and glows; she is but an immense opaque cinder, reflecting the sunlight from her disk. Stars have burnt out, and will. The universe is waxing old, as garments which from perpetual use become threadbare. But the wearing out of the garment is no proof of the waning strength or slackening energy of the wearer. Nay when garments wear out quickest, it is generally the time of robustest youth or manhood. You wrap up and lay aside your clothes when they have served their purpose; but you are the same in the new

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WITH THE Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

By the Editors

EVANGELIST HOMER BRITTON just concluded a revival with East Side Baptist Church, Thomasville, Georgia. Rev. Ben A. Byrd, Jr., pastor. There were thirty-four who accepted Christ as Saviour, five additions to the church by letter, one by statement, and forty-six rededications. Five who accepted the Lord did not unite with the church. The pastor says, "The Spirit of God directs Brother Britton, and he preaches great Bible messages. The church has been helped tremendously by his plain, forceful Bible preaching."

EVANGELIST CLIFTON W. BRANNON, during his first two years as a full-time minister of the gospel, has seen approximately 20,000 souls walk the aisles of churches indicating decisions for Christ. The number includes 14,849 rededications, 3,988 conversions, 2,253 additions to churches for baptism, 734 additions by letters, and 68 decisions for full-time Christian service. The tremendous response to his one appeal, "Get right with God," has caused the past two years to be the happiest and most satisfying of his Christian career despite the fact that in that time he has been able to spend only 17 days with his family in Longview, Texas. Evangelist Brannon, chairman of the Executive Committee, Baptist Brotherhood of

Texas, abandoned a successful law practice two years ago to become an independent evangelist.

EVANGELIST J. H. MELTON reports that in a two-week meeting with Farrington Baptist Church in Houston, Texas, there were twenty-six conversions.

EVANGELIST EDDIE WAGNER, recently in a campaign at Grace Baptist Church, St. Louis, reports a good revival there. He preached in other services at Sunshine Mission and at St. Louis Youth for Christ. At the Youth for Christ meeting many made public decisions to go wherever the Lord would lead in His work. We do not have a report on the number saved in this campaign.

EVANGELIST DOUGLAS WINN reports that in a one-week meeting at Love Field Baptist Church in Dallas, there were ten conversions. At the Rose Ave. Baptist Church in Breckenridge, Texas, there were nine conversions, nine rededications, and twenty-three family altars started.

EVANGELIST JIMMIE THRELFALL has just concluded a union campaign at Alexandria, Minnesota. There were twelve conversions, forty-two rededications, three who started family altars.

Are YOU Praying for REVIVAL?

when he moved out of this life, he would just cross the ocean of death and anchor his soul forever in the holy city of God.

Now what did he say about death? In Philippians 1:23,24 he said: "I am standing between two great desires. I would like to depart and be with Christ which is far better for me. But it is best for you that I stay and minister unto you." He knew that he would be far better off in Heaven than on earth, but he said: "It will not be time for me to go up there until I have finished my work down here."

Sometimes, in the midst of all the toil and turmoil and strife of this world, we get homesick for Heaven. We would like to lay every burden down and go on home. But God knows what is best. We are to keep on. We are to do the best we can and in His own good time, He will take us home.

In II Corinthians 5:1 he said, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." He likened the body to a tent. He says that some day the tent will fall apart, but when it does, God will clothe us with a heavenly body. That body will be eternal. It will never be sick, it will never know pain, it will never get tired. It will be a glorified body, like unto that of the Lord Jesus.

In II Corinthians 5:6-8 he tells us that while we are here in the body we are absent from the Lord, but when we are absent from the body, we are present with the Lord. I stand by the casket of a Christian and I look down at the body, the fleshly thing. I ask the question, "Where is the real person?" And the answer comes back, "He is present with the Lord." When we know that our loved ones are present with Him, we know that they are a thousand times better off than they can ever be in this world. We can weep for ourselves, but we need not weep for our loved ones who die in the Lord.

In I Corinthians 15:19 he said, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ; we are of all men most miserable." Hope is the greatest thing in the world. The most miserable people are those who have no hope for the life to come. What does the unsaved man have to look forward to? He can enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season, then death comes. He takes a fearful leap into the dark, and he spends eternity in Hell. The sinner boasting says, "I am not afraid of death." He does not realize all that it means. The Christian can humbly say, "I have hope in death." He knows what it will bring to him.

In Philippians 1:21 Paul says, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Do we gain anything when we die? Don't we lose our loved ones, our friends, our money, our home, everything? Ah, friends, if you can say, "I have lived for Christ," you will gain everything when you die.

You will gain freedom when you die—freedom from all the aches and pains and sorrows and troubles of life. You will gain fellowship when you die. Our loved ones are going down the valley one by one. But they are waiting for us, and some day we will go out to enjoy fellowship which will never be broken up. But our sweetest fellowship will be the fellowship with Jesus. Paul saw Him on the Damascus road. He never forgot that sight, and he always wanted to see His face again. If you and I have seen Jesus as he did, nothing can keep us from wanting to see His face again. We gain fullness of knowledge if we die in Christ. "Now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face" (I Cor. 13:12).

We wonder why a wicked person prospers and we have such a hard time. We wonder why a good

Pastor W. E. Hardy Becomes Evangelist

By the Editor



Rev. W. E. Hardy, Pastor of the Central Baptist Church, Martinsville, Virginia, has resigned to enter full-time work as an evangelist. Brother Hardy is forty years old, attended Peoples Bible College in Greensboro, North Carolina, then graduated from Piedmont Bible schools at Winston-Salem, North Carolina, in 1948. Brother Hardy has been preaching for several years, has organized and built five Baptist churches, and the Central Baptist Church building in Martinsville, Virginia, is said to be the largest church plant in the city or county. The church has a membership between six hundred and seven hundred.

God has richly blessed our brother in the pastorate. He has had many blessed revival cam-

useful person is taken out of the world and a sorry person is left behind. We wonder why sin comes to break our hearts and blast our hopes and ruin our homes. We will never know in this world, but in the golden glow of that better land we will sit down by the side of the Lord Jesus and He will explain it all to us. Then we will understand. Then we will see that these things which seemed so hard to us were simply blessings in disguise.

We gain a home when we die in Christ. It would be wonderful for someone to give us a little home in this world, but we have something better waiting for us in the world to come.

"A tent or a cottage, why should I care?"

They're building a palace for me over there.

Though exiled from home, yet still may I sing,

All glory to God, I'm a child of the King."

IV. The Crown Awaiting The Old Soldier

One day they led Paul out to the place of death. He saw the block where his head would lie. He saw the executioner waiting to do his duty. He saw the axe shining in the sun. But he looked beyond all of this and he saw Jesus waiting for him with something in His hand. What was it? Listen, "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day" (II Tim. 4:8). Forgotten now are all the hardships endured for Christ. Forgotten are the stripes, forgotten are the days and nights in prison, forgotten are the shipwrecks, forgotten are the abuses, forgotten are all the tears that he shed and all the blood that he poured out. This makes up for it all. Christ is waiting to welcome him. The crown is waiting for him. Heaven is waiting for the old soldier.

Are you having a hard time, my friend? Is your body afflicted? Have your friends forsaken you? Do you face many difficulties? Do you have financial worries? Then just keep on. Trust the Lord, do the best you can. He will see you through and bring you home at last.

Paul did not say that this crown was exclusively for him. He said, "Not to me only, but unto all them

Keeping Posted

WHERE TO SEE AND HEAR

Evangelist JOHN R. RICE

JULY 17-22
Winona Lake, Indiana
Winona Lake Bible Conference

AUGUST 5-10
Latham Springs Encampment,
Aquila, Texas
Sword of the Lord Conference
on Revival and Soul Winning

AUGUST 12-17
Baptist State Assembly Grounds,
Siloam Springs, Arkansas
Sword of the Lord Conference
on Revival and Soul Winning

AUGUST 19-26
Central Manor, Pennsylvania
Central Manor Camp

AUGUST 27-SEPT. 2
Hammond, Indiana
Christian Fellowship Church

SEPTEMBER 3
Danville, Illinois
Labor Day Rally with G.A.R.B.

SEPTEMBER 16-30
Pensacola, Florida
Brent Baptist Church

paings and has the commendation of a good many godly men. We are glad to introduce him to THE SWORD OF THE LORD readers. He is buying a tent, 60 by 120 feet, and expects to have his first tent revival campaign in Roanoke, Virginia. Mrs. Hardy will play the Hammond organ. He will have other revival services in the churches.

also that love his appearing" (II Tim. 4:8b). Surely if we love Him and trust Him, we will want to see Him; we love His appearing. All right, the crown is waiting for you. Some day you will do your last day's work. Some day you will have your last night's sleep. Some day you will endure the last pain, and face the last disappointment. Then your soul will soar upward and Jesus will be waiting at the gates. Then He will say: "Come in; I have been waiting for you."

Won't it be awful for anyone to go through this life and leave Christ out and miss all of this? But no man needs miss it. Christ says: "Leave your sin, put your trust in Me, and I will make you a child of God and you will have a heavenly home waiting for you at the end of the trail." Isn't it wonderful that the way is open to everyone of us! "The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." God is not selling anything; He is giving eternal life to all who come unto Him by Christ. Heaven is the only thing that can be had for the asking.

A little girl was lost on the streets of the great city of London. The police found her and tried to help her, but she couldn't remember her address. "Do you live near Westminster?" they asked her. But she didn't recognize that name. "Do you live near the House of Parliament?" "No." "Do you live near Nelson's Statue?" She knew nothing about that. Finally, they thought of Charing's Cross, where the great Stone Cross stands. "Do you live near the Great Cross, my child?" The little tear-stained face lighted up and she said, "Oh, yes! Take me to the cross. I can get home from there."

Oh, my friends, uncertain, unsettled, unhappy, unsaved, you can get home from the cross. Do you want to go some day to this wonderful home on high? Then I invite you to the cross of Christ. Come and lay all of your burdens down. Come and let Him take you in His arms and forgive you and save you. Then at the end of the way you, too, will be able to say, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course; I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness (II Tim. 4:7,8) . . . and I am going home to be with Jesus forever."

Old Soldiers Never Die

(Continued from page 2)

testimony. They say: "It's all right to be a church member, but you shouldn't give so much time to it. Come along with us." They say: "It won't hurt you to miss prayer meeting one Wednesday night. Come along with us." They say: "There is no harm in this. Everybody does it." And many Christians give in, they are soon led astray and they lose their witness. But let me ask you this question: Did you ever see anyone who had a great influence for God who didn't put Christ and His church first always? No, you never did. If you want to be a maximum Christian, fight down every temptation to side-step, set your face toward the goal and follow Him all the way.

Paul is at the end of the way now, and he says: "I have fought a good fight." We will be able to say that, too, if we have lived at our best for Christ.

Then he said: "I have finished my course." He looked upon life as a race track. He said: "This is the course that God has picked out for me, and now I have finished my course. Many others have run the course before me. Since I am encompassed about with so many witnesses I have laid aside every weight and every besetting sin and have run the race with patience." We can almost see Paul straining every nerve as he runs the race for Jesus. Now he said: "It is all over now. I have triumphed at last because my Lord ran at my side."

God has a course for you to run, also, and you ought to say: "Lord, what do You want me to do? I will be what You want me to be, I'll do what You want me to do, I'll go where You want me to go, if You will only go with me." We do not always choose our course. I did not choose the ministry, God chose me. I had never thought of preaching, but God laid His hand on me and said: "I want you to preach." I answered, "Lord, how can I do it? I have a family, I have no education, I have no money." Then He said, "Leave that up to Me." And I did just that, and He brought me through. I met discouragements on every hand, but I could always say in my heart, "God has called me and I must preach." Yes, God says, "Here is the course I want you to take," and you and I will never make much of a contribution to the world if we do not walk in His way.

Some years ago the New York

Fire Department had a great parade. One feature of the parade was three busses loaded with people from all walks of life—from a judge, to a little boy from the slums. This sign was on the busses: "All of these were saved by our Fire Department from Burning Buildings." In like manner as Paul looked back over his course he saw multitudes who had been saved from sin and death because of the work he had done for Christ. When you come to the end of the way, will anyone be able to say, "I am a Christian because of you"? Will you have any trophies to lay at His feet?

Then he said: "I have kept the faith." The Lord personally entrusted him with the great gospel truths, and he not only preached them, but he lived them out in his life, and wrote them out for us in his New Testament letters. Christianity owes more to Paul for preserving these truths than to any other man.

A few years ago two ammunition ships exploded off the coast of California. The little town of Port Chicago was practically ruined. More than three hundred men died in ten seconds' time. The flames shot two miles up into the air. The windows in San Francisco, thirty miles away, were broken. But facing the water was a hall in which some people had been holding revival services. On this building was an electric sign, "JESUS SAVES." The hall was badly damaged, but the sign still worked, sending its lighted message out over the ruins of the explosion. The world may tumble down around us, but this great truth still remains, "JESUS SAVES." This is the faith that Paul kept.

III. How The Old Soldier Felt About Death

Paul knew that his time had come. He had probably been sentenced to die. This was the last letter that he ever wrote. He said, "I am ready to be offered." He was not going to die a natural death; he was going to be slain. As a lamb or an ox was offered up on the sacrificial altar, so was he going to be offered up. "The time of my departure is at hand." He was using a nautical term here. It was time to hoist the anchor and to move out over the ocean. But listen—when a ship sails out of one harbor, we expect it to anchor soon in another harbor. So he knew that

Thrilling Letters

THESE PEOPLE WON \$2 EACH IN MERCHANDISE BY
STIRRING LETTERS DURING "LETTER MONTH"
CONCERNING BLESSINGS FROM SWORD
LITERATURE

"RUIN" HAD ALL THE ANSWERS

Attica, N. Y.
May 9, 1951

"Dear Sir:

"I am writing you to express grateful thanks to you for the benefit and light I received from reading your book, *The Ruin of a Christian*, for believe me it brought to me just where I stood, and made me see the great mistakes I have made in life. I had a good Christian mother and father and must have caused their dear souls a lot of pain, and my Saviour too. But from this day forth I have made this promise, to serve my mother and father and not make the mistakes of the past.

"I do not ever remember of reading any book that ever had all the answers to my completely fruitless life. And the only thing I can say is I wish in some way there could be more of its kind to be had here for it is hard to find any such reading....

"You may not care to hear from a fallen man but do believe me, there are a lot of hungry hearts longing to have the truth explained to them in words they can understand. After reading your book I had to write you and thank you for the way you made me realize the need of more understanding. I needed to see myself, and what a fool I have made of my life. And I thank you and God for being able to understand and see my mistakes and ask for forgiveness and be restarted to the right road.

"I thank you and write this with a sincere heart to do the will of God."

(Signed) Albert Louis Clark 5820

HELPFUL AND ENLIGHTENING

June 9, 1951

St. Anne, Ill.

"To Those who make the SWORD OF THE LORD possible:

"My wife and I accepted Christ as our Saviour just six months ago, and shortly after that our pastor sent us a subscription of THE SWORD. We have never received anything so helpful and enlightening as THE SWORD. After reading the wonderful sermons prepared from God's Word, we realize more fully the need of revival and the repentance of a sinful world. We thank God from the bottom of our hearts that He was merciful toward us, and showed us our need of Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour.

"Although we are just babes in Christ, we study a portion of God's Word every day and are fast learning the way in which God wants us to do our part...."

Grace and Rudy Abrassart

ALCOHOLIC FINDS CHRIST

St. Paul 5, Minn.

May 31, 1951

"Dear Dr. Rice:

"I subscribed for THE SWORD OF THE LORD in 1943 and have had it ever since. It has helped me to grow spiritually and I wouldn't want to be without it.

"Three years ago I handed a booklet, *What Must I Do to Be Saved?* to a patient in a hospital, who had been in hospitals 17 times for drunkenness. I also witnessed to him. The next day he told me he had accepted Christ early that morning. (He had been a Christian before but was a backslider.) He hasn't touched liquor since. He has led many people to the Lord. He has also read THE SWORD OF LORD and thinks it is one of the best Christian papers published."

Ann Lindahl

CONFERENCE A TURNING POINT

May 30, 1951

"Dear Brother Rice:

"Just a few words of greeting to you and the Sword staff and to acknowledge the great blessings that have come to our home through THE SWORD paper and books. We can also say that the Sword conference on soul winning at Cedar Lake, in 1950, attended by the seven in our family, was the turning point toward greater soul-winning effort in the lives of my wife and I after being saved for ten years. I have been able to win a number of souls to Christ where before I would invite people to church and leave them without a knowledge of how to be saved. My oldest boy heard Dr. Bob Jones, Jr., at that conference, attended his last year at Bob Jones Academy; and we are praising God for his progress in the Lord. (He was valedictorian of his class.)

"Your book, *Power of Pentecost*, is my favorite and the teaching on the Holy Spirit is cleared

up completely; and it is my desire to get this teaching to as many as possible in this town...."

George M. Klingler & Family,
Ashland, Ohio

FELL FOR MODERNIST'S LINE

June 10, 1951

"Dear Dr. Rice and Staff:

"Thanks to my loving, Christian mother, THE SWORD OF THE LORD has become a member of our household. Mother is no longer with us because a cancer ended her earthly life about a month ago.

"We have found the messages by great preachers and evangelists to be very inspiring as well as easily understood, a truly wonderful publication.

"Several years ago I attended a small college in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. It is a church-related college, but the religion teacher was a modernist, and I, being weak, fell for his line. As a result, my life became extremely sinful. I more or less was led to believe, and of course did believe, that all I had to do was to have love in my heart and do as I pleased otherwise. However, there were loved ones praying for me, and last year by attending revival services in Ottumwa, Iowa, held by Dr. Rice, I found what a terrible condition I was really in. As a result, I have found the only true happiness once more. I thank God and give praises to His holy name for His great and wonderful mercy in taking even me back into His grace. How very fortunate am I that Christ died for sinners!

"THE SWORD has given me great help in reshaping my life to His service; and I surely cannot give enough thanks and praise to those who arrange and present its publication."

Stanley Laughlin, Batavia, Iowa

WOMAN SAYS SWORD HAS NO EQUAL

June 14, 1951

"Dear Dr. Rice:

"For several years I have wanted to write you during Letter Month but have allowed the time to slip by until it was too late to get my letter in.

"I have been a subscriber to THE SWORD OF THE LORD since the night you preached at Salem Baptist Church before your Winston-Salem campaign in 1947, and to me it has no equal in any publication. I have introduced it to many of my friends and have sent it to several unsaved ones with a prayer that they will read it and find Jesus. It doesn't seem possible that anyone could read the sermons in THE SWORD and fail to learn the way of salvation. I just cannot praise it enough; and I'm always disappointed if others aren't as enthusiastic about it as I am. I always share my paper with others and pass it on to all

I can get to read it. It would be nice to keep some of the issues to re-read later, but it would be selfish to deprive others of the blessing I have received, so I pass them on. I was glad when you decided to increase the size to twelve pages. It gives us so much more good reading—and I read every page of it, even the advertisements. I like all the sermons but yours have a peculiar power to move me that others do not have. I have bought and read many of your books, but the one on Prayer is, to me, the greatest of all. I belong to the book club too, and through it have added many valuable books to my collection. It was your little booklet, *What Must I Do to Be Saved?*, that first showed me what is involved in the salvation of a soul and gave me assurance of my own salvation.

"Just one thing more I wanted to tell you. I used your little booklet, *What Must I Do to Be Saved?*, just recently to win a colored girl here to Christ. She hadn't completely understood when I explained to her the plan of salvation, but when she read your book, her doubts were cleared up and she was saved...."

Nellie M. Clayton,
Winston-Salem, N. C.

THE SWORD WENT TO JAIL

May 27, 1951

"Dear Dr. Rice:

"I am employed by Kingsport Press and my first acquaintance with your literature was through examining some of your books for shipment.

In time I obtained *Soul Winner's Fire*, *And God Remembered*, *Prayer and Sword Book of Treasures*. A few months ago the beloved evangelist who led me to Christ twenty years ago gave me a subscription to THE SWORD. I do not intend to ever be without it again.

Dr. Rice, I now keep always in the pocket of my dress four or five copies of *What Must I Do to Be Saved?* and distribute them to unsaved fellow workers as I feel the Holy Spirit tells me to. I also send them in letters, give to any unsaved person met in traveling, etc.

My copies of THE SWORD are distributed also, a message of comfort to a saint and a message on salvation goes to a sinner. Some copies went to jail recently.

Dr. Rice, all this is to assure you that your soul winning fervor is felt through the pages of your paper and that others are your co-laborers."

Mrs. Grace Lyons,

Kingsport, Tennessee

(Notice that the man who won her to Christ gave her THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Every soul winner ought to notice that. What a strength it would be to every new convert!)

SPANISH TRACT WINS MAN

AND WIFE

June 14, 1951

"Brother Rice, some time ago you sent my husband, who is Spanish, a little pamphlet, *What Must I Do to Be Saved?* in Spanish since he could not altogether understand or read English. Since that time he and I also have found our Saviour. It is so wonderful to know we are saved and the happiness we have known since is something that is hard to express. Recently we visited his mother in California, since my husband knew that he had found something (Jesus) that he wanted to tell his family about, but they, too, cannot read and understand English completely. If you could but send them some material in Spanish or literature I'm sure the Lord will bless you. I would like to secure a Bible in Spanish for them since they are Catholics and do not own one.... Please accept this check for the aid of publishing your magazine, and let me hear from you soon."

Mrs. R. D. Hinojosa
Sacramento, California

Man in "Death Row" Blessed by Sword

Huntsville, Texas
June 18, 1951

Dear Brother Rice:

For three years now I have received your wonderful paper, *The Sword of the Lord*, through the kindness of Christian prison workers, the A. C. Smiths of San Antonio. Its messages are so sound, so Scriptural, so inspiring that I have learned to love it more than any other literature next to the Bible. The Lord has used it in a wonderful way in my life. I have used much of its sermon and doctrinal material in leading other inmates to the Lord. In three-years time, the Lord has blessed with more than a hundred first-time decisions.

I am now on "death row," scheduled to die on August the second. My soul is saved, secured, and hid by the atoning blood of our loving Redeemer. I will continue to read your wonderful paper until the end. God bless you and your great work.

In His Holy Name,

Richard McGee

SWORD GAVE HELP, INSPIRATION

May 29, 1951

"Dear Dr. Rice:

"In 1946 I gave up my job as assistant overseer in a large textile plant in South Carolina to enter the ministry. Being a married man 33 years old with a family, I knew there was a strenuous career before me. In that same year I was called to a full-time Baptist church as pastor. I was also faced with four years of college work. Since then I have graduated from the North Greenville Junior College, and received my B.A. degree from Furman University, Greenville, S. C.

"These years have been strenuous and busy for me; but I have been a reader of THE SWORD OF THE LORD during all this time. I have received much help, inspiration, and enjoyment in my work from your paper. We have recommended it to many pastors and Christian workers over this area. I look forward to receiving this wonderful paper each week."

W. Daniel Greer, Pastor
White Springs Baptist Church
Lancaster, South Carolina

HIS MOTHER SIGNED FOR HIM

June 5, 1951

"Dear Brother Rice:

"I will let you know the good news. A short time ago you sent me a little book when I wrote you. It said on the back of it—*What Must I Do to Be Saved?* I let my mother read it to my brother. He was a sinner and drank all the time. When Mama read it to him, he had her sign it for him. She asked him if he was really sorry in his heart for his sins. He said, Yes. He can't write, so he had her sign it for him. Please pray for him! I feel sorry that he can't read to read the Word of God for himself, just has to depend on others to tell him right and not wrong. I am so thankful to God."

Mrs. Johnnie Mae Grant
Holum, La.

A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON

June 4, 1951

"Dear Dr. Rice:

"I have had a wonderful time in giving out the gospel tracts I ordered from you. I have been giving them to the lost where I work, to new converts to read over, and out in beer joints and everywhere. Let's pray God will touch and save many. Enclosed is a money order for \$2.20. Please send another hundred of *What Must I Do to Be Saved?*

"I have let letter month slip by without writing to let you know what a blessing THE SWORD has been to me. It has made me,

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under God, into a completely different person and preacher. I rely on it for my fire and zeal and compassion for souls. Dr. Rice, I have never seen anything help me to get what little soul winning compassion for souls that I have like your messages to the Christians have done. They're wonderful!"

Lindell Whitehead, Paris, Tenn.

FOR YOUR PROTECTION

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The Editor's Notes

(Continued from page 1)

I'd also like to meet you sometime if I had the opportunity.

"Very truly yours,
"Rev.) Charles H. Harrison,
Ph. D."

Thank you, Dr. Harrison. God bless you, and all who love the Lord Jesus and are trusting in His shed blood. We are so glad to hear from you.

DR. JESSE M. HENDLEY, evangelist in a tent revival campaign at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, under the leadership of a Christian Businessmen's Committee and co-operating churches, writes most kindly as follows:

"Dear Dr. Rice:
"I just wanted to write you a letter thanking you for what THE SWORD OF THE LORD is doing for Evangelism in the places where I am called for city-wide campaigns. God is blessing us here in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where we are under a large tent. There have been 550 souls to come to the Lord and we have another week to go. Last night people were sitting on the outside of the tent.

"The other night the Chairman of the campaign asked me if I knew how they first had us placed upon their hearts as an evangelist. I told him I had not heard and he said it was through our messages in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. I just want to repeat what I have told you before, that God has and is using you and your testimony for continuous revival in America and I am deeply grateful for the influence it has had on my ministry.

"I pray that it will be enlarged increasingly until all America is wrapped in the flames of a great Holy Spirit revival.

"Cordially and sincerely yours,
in Christ's service,
(Signed) "Jesse M. Hendley,
Evangelist"

God bless this devoted, Spirit-filled evangelist. God is increasing his kind in America!

IT IS TOO LONG a letter to quote, but William H. Barbry, Jr., Winston-Salem, North Carolina, writes to tell how God is blessing his work as a new minister of Jesus Christ. A year ago at Lake Louise, Toccoa, Georgia, he surrendered to preach. I stopped with him and had prayer in the corridor. He says he has never forgotten that prayer and now he tells about a revival campaign in a small country Baptist church which had not had revival services in fifteen years. "Well, I had a wonderful time, lots of people got mad, three professions of faith, and I believe there were seven subscribed to THE SWORD OF THE LORD," he said. Then he told how "the meanest man in town" came to the services, got under conviction and has since then been saved, turned from his drunkenness and profanity and is living for God. And the young preacher's brother has also just been saved. He works with another young minister saved in this editor's revival at Winston-Salem, North Carolina, a few years ago. How our hearts are comforted to see that our children walk in the faith! Thank God that all over America are young preachers saved in my revival services, or surrendered in these conferences on evangelism.

FROM KINGSFORT, TENNESSEE, a wife and mother writes, "My sister-in-law loaned me the book, *The Home, Courtship, Marriage and Children*, last winter, and I just want you to know what a wonderful blessing it has been to us." Then she tells how through that book she learned that she ought to win her children. She has won her three sons to Christ, then the husband has been saved and all have been baptized. I trust that thousands of readers will help get that big Bible manual on *The Home, Courtship, Marriage and Children*, into homes where it is needed. There are 381 pages, the price is \$2.50, and we guarantee it to be helpful to those who learn the Bible teaching on this subject, and want to have a really Christian home.

Glory of Christ's Office

(Continued from page 2)

suit as in the old. Creation is the vesture of Christ. He wraps Himself about in its ample folds. Its decay affects Him not. And, when He shall have laid it all aside, and replaced it by the new heavens and the new earth, He will be the same forevermore.

With what new interest may we not now turn to the archaic record, which tells how God created the heavens and the earth. Those sublime syllables, "Light, be!" were spoken by the voice that trembled in dying anguish on the cross. Rolling rivers, swelling seas, waving woods, bursting flowers, caroling birds, innumerable beasts, stars sparkling like diamonds on the pavilion of night—all newly made; all throbbing with God's own life; and all very good: but, mainly and gloriously, all the work of those hands which were nailed helplessly to the cross which itself, as well as the iron that pierced Him, was the result of His creative will.

He is the God of Providence

"Upholding all things by the word of his power" (vs. 3). He is the prop which underpins creation. Christ, and not fate. Christ, and not nature. Christ, and not abstract impersonal law. Law is but the invariable method of His working. "In him all things live, and move, and have their being." "By him all things consist." He is ever at work repeating on the large scale of creation the deeds of His earthly life. And if He did not do them, they must be forever undone. At His word rainwater and dew become grape-juice; tiny handfuls of grain fill the autumn barns; storms die away into calm; fish are led through the paths of the sea; rills are sent among the mountains; and stars are maintained in their courses, so that "not one faileth."

All power is given unto Him in Heaven and on earth. Why, then,

FROM DES MOINES, IOWA, a wife writes, "I am always reminded to thank the Lord for my husband being saved when you were here in a revival at First Federated Church. You had much to do in drawing and winning his soul to Christ. Thank God! He is a good witness." And then she tells about her husband's soul-winning activities since he was saved last February. Praise the Lord!

REV. THOMAS F. ZIMMERMAN writes from the executive offices of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, Springfield, Missouri, sending along some information about the twenty-fourth biennial General Council gathering for the ministers and delegates of the Assemblies of God churches, to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, August 16-23, in the public auditorium. Brother Zimmerman says, "We would consider it a distinct honor to have you visit our General Council. All members of your organization are warmly welcomed." I wish I could attend. I would feel myself very much at home with these godly people. I know some of their leaders well. They believe in the blood and the Book. I do not agree with their teaching that speaking in tongues is the Bible evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. But I believe it is far better to know that one needs the power of the Holy Spirit than to ignore Him as so many of the other denominations do. And I would much rather have fellowship with an earnest, Bible-believing Christian who talks in tongues and is wrong, perhaps, on some minor doctrines, than with a Baptist, for example, who does not believe in the virgin birth, in the blood atonement, or the inspiration of the Bible, as some so-called Baptists do not. May God bless the Council of the Assemblies of God as they meet together in Atlanta, August 16-23.

DR. LEE ROBERSON, PASTOR of the Highland Park Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee (and my own pastor now), and president of the Tennessee Temple Schools, Bible ins-

(Continued on page 11)

art thou so sad? Thy best Friend is the Lord of Providence. Thy Brother is Prime Minister of the universe, and holds the keys of the divine commissariat. Go to Him with the empty sacks of thy need; He will not only fill them, but fill them freely, without money and without price; as Joseph did in the old story of the days of the Pharaohs.

He is the Saviour of Sinners

"He purged our sins." We shall have many opportunities of dwell-

ing on this glorious fact. Jesus is Saviour, Redeemer, and the High Priest. This is His proudest title; in this work no angel or created spirit can bear Him rivalry. In the work of salvation He is alone. No angel could atone for sin, or plead our cause, or emancipate us from the thrall of evil.

But notice the finality of this act. "He made purging of sins" (see Greek). It is finished; forever complete; done irrevocably and finally. If only we are one with Him by a living faith, our sins, which were many, are washed out; as an inscription from a slate, as a stain from a robe, as a cloud from the azure of Heaven.

He is Also King

And on what does his kingdom rest? What is the basis of that Royalty of which we constantly sing, in the noble words of the primitive Church?—"Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ." It is a double basis.

He is King by right of His divine nature.—"Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever." Well might Psalm 45 be entitled the poem of the lilies, as if to denote its pure and choice and matchless beauties. It celebrated the marriage of Solomon: but, after the manner of those inspired singers, its authors soon passed from the earthly to the heavenly; from the transient type of the earthly realm to the eternal and imperishable realities of the divine royalty of Christ.

He is also King as the reward of His obedience unto death.—"He became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross: Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him" (Phil. 2: 8, 9). Satan offered Him sovereignty in return for one act of homage, and Christ refused, and descended the mountain to poverty and shame and death; but through these things He has won for Himself a Kingdom which is yet in its infancy, but is destined to stand when all the kingdoms of this world have crumbled to dust.

As Christ emerged from the cross and the grave, where He had purged our sins, it seemed as if words were addressed to Him which David had caught ages before: "The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool" (vs. 13; Psa. 110:1). This is the interpretation which the Apostle Peter, in the flush of Pentecostal inspiration, put upon these words (Acts 2:34). And, accordingly, we are told, "He was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God" (Mark 16:19). "He sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high" (vs. 3).

"He sat down." Love is regnant. The Lamb is in the midst of the Throne. Behold His majesty, and worship Him with angels and arch-angels, and all the throng of the redeemed. Prostrate yourself at His feet, consecrating to Him all you are and all you have. Comfort yourself also by remembering that He would not sit to rest from His labors in redemption, and in the purging away of sins, unless they were so completely finished that there was nothing more to do. It is all accomplished; and it is all very good. He has ceased from His works, because they are done; and therefore He is entered into His rest. And that word "until" is full of hope. God speaks it, and encourages us to expect the time when He shall have put down all rule and all authority and power; and when death itself, the last enemy, shall be destroyed (I Cor. 15:24-26).

(Above is Chapter III of Dr. Meyer's Exposition on Hebrews, *THE WAY INTO THE HOLIEST*. There are 35 chapters, 277 pages, price \$2.50. Why not get this book as your first selection of the Sword Book Club, and get free your choice of several other fine books. See article, this page.)

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By John R. Rice, Editor

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We Suggest You Start With F. B. Meyer's Book, "The Way Into the Holiest"

In this issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD we are publishing a rich devotional study by F. B. Meyer on "The Glory of Christ's Office." This chapter is one of thirty-five great chapters in the book, *The Way Into the Holiest*, an exposition of the book of Hebrews, by the great English preacher, F. B. Meyer. This big book (277 pages) will enrich your life mightily. It will help you to understand one of the most difficult and yet one of the richest books of the Bible—the Epistle to the Hebrews. I suggest you buy this book as your initial selection of the *Sword Book Club*. Simply fill in the coupon below, signing the book club agreement, then indicate which book you want free and mail the coupon and the price for the one book you buy and mail it today. Thus you become a member of the great Christian book club.

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The new feature will appear from time to time. Its publication is to explain the purpose and advantages of SWORD advertising. Watch this feature for news concerning individuals and organizations offering products and services which you may find profitable. We plan to make this feature of special value to Christian workers and soul winners.

Why the Sword Prints Advertising

Occasionally a SWORD subscriber complains "Why do you have so much advertising in your paper? Why not leave it out and print more of your good, soul-saving sermons? Advertising is not too important anyway." We appreciate the desire for additional reading, but do not agree that advertising is not important.

SWORD advertising is important for several reasons:

1. It helps us pay our printing bill and keep the subscription price down. If we discontinued all advertising it would be necessary to raise our present \$2.00 per year rate to \$5.00 or \$6.00, or perhaps even more.

2. It helps readers to locate new materials and services. Many desirable products and services are available to earnest Christian soul winners. If there were no pages devoted to advertising in Christian publications many of these products and services would remain unknown, unbought and unused.

3. It helps to keep down the cost of supplies and services we need. It

is a common impression that advertising represents an extra cost, something that must be added to the price of what we buy. But it is a fact that good advertising sells goods and services so well that it is the cheapest way of selling them.

It is actually possible to sell goods and services that are well advertised at a lower price than if they were not advertised.

If no money were spent for advertising, the cost of selling and distributing would be far higher than it now is, smaller volumes of goods would be sold and produced, and there would be less employment and a smaller share of the good things of life for each of us.

Here's what one advertiser told us:

"We placed an advertisement in a recent issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD, and there seems to be no end to the responses.

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Please Mention
THE SWORD OF THE LORD
When Answering Advertisements

A Filipino Pastor Writes Farewell To Sword!

By the Editor

In the June 1, 1951 issue of *The Sword of the Lord* we published a picture, of a new church formed in the Philippine Islands, and a letter from the dear pastor who said that I was the founder and father of the church. This Filipino man had been converted, then some way through literature given out by some of the missionaries had gotten in touch with the *Sword of the Lord*, read several of my books and pamphlets and then, on the request of a missionary, as I recall, I had sent him *The Sword of the Lord*. He had gotten to preaching the gospel and winning souls, then was led of God to found a new church and God was blessing. Now, our brother writes as follows:

Jimenez Telegraph Station
Jimenez, Misamis Occ.
Mindanao, Philippines
May 8, 1951

The Editor
THE SWORD OF THE LORD
Wheaton, Illinois
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Rice:

I am sorry I could no longer renew my subscription to THE SWORD OF THE LORD. I cannot send postal money order to that country. Our government prohibits us to do so. It's a pain to part from this paper, because it is a source of unexhaustible spiritual help.

The situation is quite a hard one, so I am obliged to say farewell. Goodbye, my dear SWORD OF THE LORD. May I again learn of you sometimes later.

May the blessings of the Lord be showered abundantly unto you and your staff, that your paper may

continue to win souls for Christ.

Your Christian Friend,

(Signed) Bernabe B. Morales

I will have to confess the letter moved me to laughter and then to tears, also! I supposed I laughed because of little quirks in the way this native Filipino, speaking Spanish, writes in English. But I was touched to the very heart by his sense of need of THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

Maybe you know what I did; I simply gave an order that THE SWORD OF THE LORD be sent to him for another year, paid for out of our Ministers and Missionaries Subscription Fund, intending that he should not lack the inspiration and help he gets from this Christian magazine.

My heart is torn all the time by such letters. From all over the world we get word from preachers and missionaries who want THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Many of them, like our Brother Morales cannot send money from their country because it is forbidden by the government. Others are like a Canadian pastor who gets only \$1600 a year and could not afford to subscribe to THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Others are like retired

Share YOUR Sword

missionaries in California who wrote the other day that they were bound to the barest little pension, and now could no longer spare the money for a subscription. They did not ask for the paper to be extended. They were simply writing us to tell why they could not renew. Of course, I had the paper sent to them.

It seems to me it would be a sin for us who have plenty, not to make THE SWORD OF THE LORD available to every preacher of the gospel at home and abroad, and every missionary, who really wants THE SWORD OF THE LORD, and who otherwise might not have it. Will you help me in this holy business? Will you send your gift to see THE SWORD OF THE LORD goes to people like these? For example, I had word from about a thousand native pastors in Japan where our literature has been so widely spread, requesting THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Each one of them reads English and needs the help of this paper. Few of them have the means to send for it.

This is a burden to me, and yet a joy. I want you to have part in the burden and in the joy. Will you send your offering at once to help send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to ministers and missionaries who otherwise could not have it?

Please send your offerings for the Ministers and Missionaries Subscription Fund to Editor John R. Rice, *Sword of the Lord*, Wheaton, Illinois.

WE'RE TELLING YOU!

YOU ASK US. "Just what does Evangelist John R. Rice consider the dozen greatest doctrines of Christian faith, and how does he develop them in his book, *TWELVE TREMENDOUS THEMES*? So

WE TELL YOU just what the *Baptist Reflector* reported about this work in a kind review. First of all they said, "This volume deals with 12 of the most important doctrines of the Bible . . . in a clear and impressive way." Then they enumerated these facts:

1. "The author boldly affirms and offers conclusive proof of the verbal inspiration and scientific accuracy of the Bible."
2. "He asserts with tremendous emphasis the universality of sin and its only remedy."
3. "He presents Christ and salvation as the double theme of all the prophets—that all bear witness to Christ and all teach salvation by simple faith."
4. "He stresses Paul's, or the Kingdom, gospel as the one and only gospel made effective by the love-work of the Holy Spirit."
5. "He answers the question, 'Can a Saved Person Ever Be Lost?' with an emphatic 'No' and sustains his position with abundant Scriptures and unanswerable arguments."
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7. "He challenges modernism with the bold affirmation that there is literal, physical fire in Hell and that the torment there is everlasting."
8. "The Imminent Second Coming of the Lord . . . is a splendid treatise on the subject."



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11. "Churches" and "The Church"
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OTHERS TELL US the very same things. For instance, here are remarks made about the book by well-known, widely-read Christian periodicals.

OUR HOPE: "...Each message offers interesting reading and burns with zeal for souls...true to the doctrines of grace, justification and sanctification."

CONGREGATIONAL BEACON: "...evangelical, evangelistic, and soul winning."

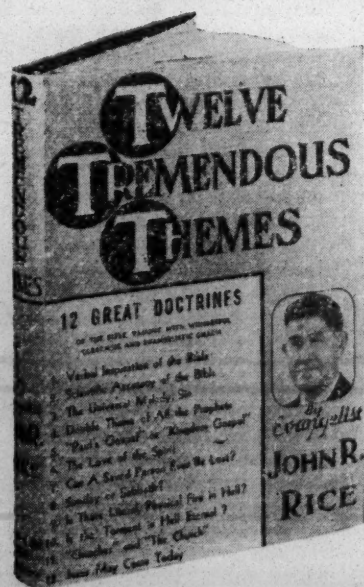
MOODY MONTHLY: "... a sound and . . . gripping presentation of these subjects."

SERVICE: "It will stimulate, strengthen and stabilize."

CHRISTIAN STANDARD: "...the book is filled with polemical, sound Bible teaching, and is strongly evangelistic."

MISSIONARY WORKER: "The reader...will admire the author for his thoroughgoing methods, his original thinking, and his reverent and copious use of the Scriptures....Stimulating, thought-provoking reading..."

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WE TELL YOU, TOO, that we believe *TWELVE TREMENDOUS THEMES* a bargain for a book its size. The material in every detail is comprehensive, conclusive; scriptural and scholarly; yet it is amazingly simple to read and understand. Its a beautiful book, strongly bound in cloth, attractively jacketed. 177 pages of stimulating informative reading. Yet the price is only **\$1.50**

Order from your book dealer or

Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois

Bob Jones Says

Comments on Here and Hereafter

By Rev. Bob Jones Sr. D.D. LL.D.

According to the Bible we are children of God by saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible nowhere teaches the universal fatherhood of God. God is the



"Dr. Bob"

Creator of all men. This does not mean that God is the Father of all men. He created the animals as well as men. The animals and men are not brothers. "As many as received Him to them gave He power to become the children of God." God created Nicodemus. Nicodemus was a religious man. As far as we know, he was clean and moral. But Jesus told Nicodemus that he would have to be born again. It is significant that our Lord was not talking to a "drunken bum." He was talking to a moral, religious leader. It is rather strange how ideas that are untrue become popular even among some good people. In religious centers men are talking about the universal fatherhood of God and the universal brotherhood of men. They just imagine this. God does not teach it. Jesus taught that some men were children of the devil. All unregenerated men are the devil's children. All regenerated men are children of God.

Fatherhood carries with it certain responsibilities. "I would not send my own child to Hell, and I certainly do not believe God would send His children to Hell." The writer has heard that so many times as he has conducted evangelistic campaigns in many parts of the world. This statement that God would not send His children to Hell is true, but God will let men go to Hell who refuse to become His children. Infinite perfection puts about God infinite impossibilities. These are some

things God cannot do because He is God and He is infinitely perfect. God cannot save any man except in an infinitely perfect way. God has provided that way. The Lord Jesus Christ on the cross bore our sins in His own body. He died for us. The justice of God has been satisfied. According to Paul, God can be just and the justifier of all who trust Jesus Christ as Savior. Men do not become children of God by anything they can do. They become children of God by accepting what the Lord Jesus did for them on the cross.

When we trust the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and become children of God, then God has His obligations as a father. When we are born again, we are little babies so God has provided the "milk of the Word." He watches over His little ones and takes care of them. If they stumble and fall, and they may do this sometimes and they may get hurt, God knows they are little babies. As we grow in grace, God gives us meat instead of milk. We are supposed to grow spiritually just as children grow physically. We do not grow physically because we just make up our minds to grow. We grow by doing the things that make us grow. We breathe. We sleep. We eat. We take exercise. Young Christians need to breathe the heavenly atmosphere. They need a good climate. They should associate with Christian people. They should eat spiritual food. They should feed on God's Word. They should relax, and by this we mean rest in the Lord. They should take exercise. They should witness for Christ and do good works. They should live in communion with their heavenly Father. Parents wish to have fellowship with their children. God desires to have fellowship with His children. We have a good heavenly Father who pities like an earthly father and comforts like an earthly mother. But He knows how to pity and how to comfort as no earthly father or mother can know.

Strange Short Stories

By Dr. Walter L. Wilson

THE PEANUT IS CROOKED



Why are peanuts crooked? No man made them that way—peanuts are not crooked. God made peanuts the way He wanted them made, and our business is to learn what we may from this interesting little nut. Peanuts are like folks—all of them have a crook in the life somewhere. None are entirely straight and smooth from start to finish. Everybody has something wrong in his system or his disposition. Some are more crooked than others. Some are very badly bent—others are fairly straight. None are absolutely perfect.

The peanut is equipped with a double covering. The outside one is the one that the public sees. It is harder and more tough than the inner one, which is a thin skin covering the nut itself. Folks do not see the inner one until the outer one is broken. Human lives are like this. There is an outer life which the public sees when we leave the home and enter the shop or the office. The inner one is revealed in the home with the wife and the children and with God. It is of a much different type. It is not at all like the outer one. Many who are delightful in their office life are crabbed and sour and hard to live with in the home. Men who are kind and sweet to the stenographer are cruel and harmful with the sweetheart they swore to love, honor and cherish. What kind of lives do you live?

Peanuts are developed in the dark. After appearing on the plant, they are covered up with soil and grow to perfection and maturity out of sight beneath the ground. It is so in our lives. What we are, what we learn, what we do, privately and when alone, largely determines what we shall be before the world. The Lord Jesus said, "There is no man that doeth anything in secret, and he himself seeketh to be known openly" (John 7:4).

A very wise man once said, "Who can make that straight which he hath made crooked?" (Eccles. 7:13). All the power of political leaders, all the influence of financial leaders, all the assistance which might be rendered by leaders of education, would utterly fail to make one peanut straight. Man can make many things, but he cannot make that straight which God has made crooked. Only the living Lord could make a peanut grow smooth and straight in the ground. We find it so among people. No amount of culture or education or refinement; no amount of money, or position, or power can make a sinful heart righteous and upright. Only the gospel can do it—only the grace of God can bring it about. God can do it and God does do it. Thousands of men and women have been reclaimed by the gospel, but I challenge every infidel, atheist and agnostic to produce one human life that has been changed from sinfulness to saintliness by the message which he has given.

Each peanut has a sweet heart. No matter how peculiar the shell may be, when it is broken, the heart may be reached. How good

those peanuts are. The smell of them intrigues you and entices the nickels out of the pocket. You can hardly resist them. There are two nuts in each shell as a usual thing. We might say there are two hearts within that shell. It is just so with ourselves. The Christian has a heart for God and a heart for those in need. The sinner has a heart for himself and a heart for his own interests. We do not care much for the shell—we hardly look at it closely, we care so little about it. When we buy peanuts we wish to get at the hearts immediately. We read that the "Lord looks on the heart." He too knows the difference between the outer shell of profession and the inner substance of profession.

Because there are two nuts in the shell, we are reminded of the fact that God made man for a companion. He said, "It is not good that the man should be alone," Genesis 2:18. Our Lord sent out His disciples by two and two. Peter had a John whom he loved. Paul had a Silas with whom he suffered. Philip found a Nathaniel to whom he would introduce the lovely Jesus. This truth seems to be confirmed by the great King Solomon when he said, "A brother is born for adversity" (Prov. 17:17). How sweet it is to have a chum in whom you can confide and on whom you may lean in times of stress and distress. Peanuts come in pairs, within the shell.

The peanut has no value unless it is broken. How strange it is that the sweetest graces are usually seen emanating from the saddest of sorrows. The roses are crushed that the perfume may delight our hearts. Meats and vegetables must be cooked that they may have value for our bodies. The animals must die that we may have shoes for our feet. Gold is melted and beaten and shaped that it may adorn us and enhance our attractiveness. In the Jewish tabernacle everything from the front door to the back wall spoke of sorrow. The peanut is no exception to the rule. We can only obtain the good meat of the nut by crushing the shell. Perhaps you have complained because there have been crushings in your life. Do not complain—"consider the work of God" and seek to understand what blessings you may receive from your adversity.

All peanuts are the same color on the outside. God looks down on men and gives this conclusion, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). This statement is prefaced by the short, terse message, "There is no difference!" God has concluded all men under sin that He may have mercy on all. All are dead in sins, all are guilty, all are stained with their guilt, all are alike in the respect that they are lost. Has Christ Jesus saved you?

(The above is one of thirty-three chapters in the book, *Strange Short Stories By the Doctor*, 123 pages, paper bound, which may be purchased for 75c from Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.)

Outside the Gate

(Continued from page 1)

Christian ought not to take the same bloody oaths which unsaved people, banded together, in the lodges take. I believe that a Christian ought not to look upon the same lewd films which fascinate the unsaved man and woman and color their lives for evil. The Christian should be different.

I wonder, is your life in a clean place so that you can have fellowship with the Lord Jesus, can know His power, can take upon you His reproach?

2. The Christian Must Live in the Place of Ashes, if He Would Bear the Reproach of Christ

The place outside the gate where the body of the bullock was taken was the place "where the ashes are poured out." The burning of the bodies of the bullocks would produce more ashes all the time. The Christian should live in the place of ashes!

Are there any ashes in your life? Have you burned up dream castles? Have you laid on the fire of God's altar a sacrifice of things dearest to your heart?

I was a college teacher and I loved to teach. I did graduate work briefly in the University of Chicago and had a contract for another year for teaching. I had dreamed that I would soon become a college president and who knows, perhaps then a senator, a famous author and more—any vigorous young man can dream! But one day in Chicago in the Pacific Garden Mission I put my arms around a drunken bum and won him to Christ. There were many tears, there were holy confessions, there was an abandon of surrender and faith in Christ. And the man was miraculously transformed.

I got up from my knees beside this poor, dirty, unshaven, but now converted bum, and found that all my ambitions for college teaching were gone! I wanted nothing better than to win souls and to have welling up in my heart continually the glad joy I felt at that moment. I looked through the vista of future years and saw the time when "they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever" (Dan. 12:3). I gave up my graduate work, gave up my contract, and started revival work and then entered the seminary for ministerial training.

What I did then, I have since done a hundred times, a thousand times. I have said good-by to good friends for Jesus' sake. I have laid on the altar the dearest things a man can know in this world, save the love of God and the presence of the Holy Spirit, and eternal blessings. I have loved those who did not love me. I have helped those who did not thank me. I have through the long years willingly paid whatever price God would help me pay to help bring back revivals. I have been unknown when I could be known. I have been despised when I could have been honored.

No man can be of much use to Christ who is not willing to set the match to possessions, careers, and loves of his life. Abraham left Ur of the Chaldees, and home. Ruth said good-by to her Moabite kinspeople and went with Naomi to the land of the true God where she was a stranger. One day Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee and called two brothers, Peter and Andrew, promising to make them fishers of men, "and they straightway left their nets, and followed him" (Matt. 4:20). He saw other brothers, James and John, and called them "and they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him" (Matt. 4:22). It may have been harder to leave their father than the ship, but the ship and father and nets and career were all laid on the altar of sacrifice and the fire was lighted. They lived in the place of ashes.

Levi or Matthew was a publican, a prosperous tax collector, but when he heard Jesus say, "Follow me," then, we are told, "he left all, rose up, and followed him" (Luke 5:27,28). That is what God calls every Christian to do—simply to "leave all." Whatever it is, put it on the altar! I loved fine horses. Riding was almost as natural as walking, but I bade them good-by to preach.

C. T. Studd gave up a fortune,

and went to be a missionary in China. Later he gave up his sick wife and left her, not to see her for years. After signing away all his money and giving up the joy of his family, eventually Studd could say, "I honestly do not know anything else I can give up to Jesus Christ." But in fact, the dear Lord insists that life itself shall be laid on the altar. We should be ready to live or die. "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me" (Luke 9:23). Again Jesus said, "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:26,27). God wants the fire set to personal loves, personal ambitions and personal possessions. He wants you to come to the place of ashes. In fact, Jesus said plainly, "So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:33). You may be a child of God and know Jesus as your Saviour, without suffering for Him, without forsaking things for Him. But you cannot be His disciple, His learner; you cannot walk in His footsteps, you cannot follow Him truly, except by forsaking all and going outside the gate unto Him, and bearing His reproach.

Is it too much to ask that we should give up things for the Lord Jesus, when He has given up so much for us?

I gave My life for thee,
My precious blood I shed,
That thou might'st ransomed be,
And quickened from the dead;
I gave, I gave My life for thee,
What hast thou given for Me?

My Father's house of light,
My glory-circled throne
I left for earthly night,
For wanderings sad and lone;
I left, I left it all for thee,
Hast thou left aught for Me?

I suffered much for thee,
More than thy tongue can tell,
Of bitterest agony,
To rescue thee from hell;
I've borne, I've borne it all for thee,
What hast thou borne for Me?

And I have brought to thee,
Down from My home above,
Salvation full and free,
My pardon and My love;
I bring, I bring rich gifts to thee,
What hast thou brought to Me?

How can you answer the question by Frances R. Havergal in the

hymn above? How could you satisfy Jesus Christ without laying everything on the altar for Him, and taking on you His reproach?

To be sure, there are many daily joys for a Christian. A Christian father enjoys his baby more than a lost man, I suppose. A Christian should enjoy his food, should enjoy blessings to make his heart happy every day. A Christian should know better the joys of a Christian family life. But at the same time, everything the Christian has should be laid on the altar, offered to God with sincere heart. For the Christian it should make no matter, to live or die, just so he is in the very place where God wants him. Is your life lived in the place of ashes?

3. The Reproach Pictures the Bad Odor, the Reproach Which Goes With the Best Christianity

Can you imagine how it smelled in that place where the carcasses of the sin offerings were burned? Think of the hair, the hide, the horns, the hoofs, the bones burning, with the dung and flesh. And remember that there were many sin offerings. I have no doubt that the fires were kept burning there continually. I know how that smelled, for I lived in Fort Worth, Texas, long ago and when the wind was right we could smell, six miles away, the burning of dung and refuse outside the big packing plants on the north side. Surely that odor pictures part of the reproach that is on Christians.

An evangelist came to Dallas, Texas, to hold revival services in the big tabernacle of what is now the Galilean Baptist Church. The evangelist, after trying to get the cooperation of a good many other churches, said to me indignantly, "There is a stink on this place! There is a reproach on this tabernacle!"

And there was. In that tabernacle we had seen hundreds saved, including drunkards, convicts, har-

(Continued on page 9)

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GOING Somewhere?

Then see the
CONFERENCE DIRECTORY

page 11,
this issue.

The Sinner's Refuge

(Continued from page 1)

Now, I wish to use this custom of the Jews as a metaphor and type, to set forth the salvation of men through Jesus Christ our Lord. I shall give you first an explanation, and then an exhortation.

I. We Shall Attempt an Explanation of This Type

1. Note, the person for whom the city of refuge was provided. It was not provided for the willful murderer; if he fled there, he must be dragged out of it and given up to the avenger after a fair trial, and the avenger of death was to kill him and so have blood for blood, and life for life. But in case of accident, when one man had slain another without malice or forethought, and had only committed homicide, then the man fleeing there was perfectly safe.

Here, however, the type of Christ is not in keeping; Christ is not a city of refuge provided for men that are innocent, but a city provided for men who are guilty—not for men who have accidentally transgressed, but for men who have willfully gone astray. Our Saviour has come into the world to save, not those who have by mistake and error committed sin, but those who have fearfully transgressed against His known commandments and have gone astray of their own free will, their own perversity leading them to rebel against God.

2. The avenger of blood. In explaining this, I must, of course, take every part of the figure. The avenger of blood, I have said, was usually next of kin, but I believe any one of the family was held to be competent. If, for instance, my brother had been killed, it would have been my duty, as the first of the family, to avenge his blood, if possible, there and then; to go after the murderer, or the man who had caused death ac-

cidental, and put him to death at once; and if I could not do that, it would be my business and that of my father, and, indeed, of every male of the family, to hunt and pursue that man until God should deliver him into our hand, so that we might put him to death. I mean not that it is our duty now, but it would have been under the old Jewish dispensation. It was allowed by the Jewish law, that those who were of the kith and kin of the man killed should be the avengers of his blood.

We find the type of this, then, for the sinner, in the law of God. Sinner, the law of God is the blood avenger—against you; you have willfully transgressed, you have killed God's commandments, you have trampled them underfoot; the law is the avenger of blood; that is after you, and it will have you; condemnation is hanging over your head now, and ere long it shall overtake you; though it reach you not in this life, yet, in the world to come, the avenger of blood, the Moses, the law shall have its vengeance upon you, and you shall be utterly destroyed.

3. But there was a city of refuge provided under the law; and let me tell you a few things concerning this city. You will remember there were six cities of refuge, in order that one of them might be at a convenient distance from any part of the country.

Now, there are not six Christs; there is but one; but then there is a Christ everywhere. "The word is nigh thee, in thy mouth, in thy heart; if thou wilt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in thine heart, thou shalt be saved."

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The city of refuge was a priestly city—a city of the Levites, and it afforded protection to the manslayer for life. He might never go out of it till the death of the then reigning high priest; after which he might go free, without being touched by the avenger of blood at all. But during the time of his sojourn there he was housed and fed gratuitously; everything was provided for him, and he was kept entirely safe. And I would have you mark that he was safe in this city, not because of the bolts or bars of the city, but simply because it was of divine appointment.

Do you see the man running from the avenger? The avenger is after him, fast and furious; the man has just reached the borders of the city; in a moment the avenger halts; he knows it is of no use going any further after him, not because the city walls are strong, nor because the gates are barred, nor because an army standeth without to resist, but because God hath said the man shall be safe as soon as he has crossed the border and has come into the suburbs of the city. Divine appointment was the only thing which made the city of refuge secure.

Now, beloved, Jesus Christ is the divinely-appointed way of salvation; whosoever amongst us shall make haste from our sins, and fly to Christ, being convinced of our guilt, and helped by God's Spirit to pursue the road, we shall, without doubt, find security; the course of the law shall not touch us, Satan shall not harm us, vengeance shall not reach us, for the divine appointment, stronger than gates of iron or brass, shieldeth every one of us who has "fled for refuge to the hope set before us in the gospel."

This city of refuge, I must have you note, too, had round it suburbs of a very great extent. Two thousand cubits were allowed for grazing land for the cattle of the priests, and a thousand cubits within these for fields and vineyards. Now, no sooner did the man reach the outside of the city, the suburbs, than he was safe; it was not necessary for him to get within the walls but the suburbs themselves were sufficient protection. Learn, hence, that if ye do but touch the hem of Christ's garment, ye shall be made whole; if ye do but lay hold of Him with "faith as a grain of mustard seed," with faith which is scarcely a believing, but is truly a believing, you are safe.

"A little genuine grace ensures The death of all our sins." Get within the borders; lay hold of the hem of Christ's garments and thou art secure.

We have some interesting particulars also with regard to the distance of these cities from the habitations of men in Judea. It is said that wherever a homicide might occur, any man might get to a city of refuge within half a day. And verily, beloved, it is no great distance to the breast of Christ; it is but a simple renunciation of our own powers and a laying hold of Christ, to be our all in all, that is required in order to our being found in the city of refuge. And with regard to the roads to the city, we are told that they were strictly preserved. Every river was bridged; as far as possible the road was made level and every obstruction removed, so that the man who fled might find an easy passage to the city.

Once a year the elders of the city went along the roads to keep them in order so that nothing might occur, through the breaking down of bridges, or the stopping up of the highway, to impede the flight of anyone and cause him to be overtaken and killed. And wherever there were byroads and turnings, there were fixed up handposts, and with this word upon them "Miklat"—"refuge"—pointing out the way in which the man should fly, if he wished to reach the city.

And there were two people always kept on the road: so that in case the avenger of blood should overtake a man, they might come in the way and entreat the avenger to stay his hand until the man had reached the

city, lest haply innocent blood should be shed without a fair trial, and so the avenger should be proved guilty of murder; for the risk, of course, was upon the head of the avenger, if he put one to death that did not deserve to die.

Now, beloved, I think this is a picture of the road to Christ Jesus. It is no roundabout road of the law; it is no obeying this, that, and the other; it is a straight road: "Believe and live." It is a road so hard that no self-righteous man can ever tread it; but it is a road so easy that every sinner who knows himself to be a sinner, might by it find his way to Christ and his way to Heaven. And lest they should be mistaken, God has set me and my brethren in the ministry to be like handposts in the way, to point poor sinners to Jesus; and we desire ever to have on our lips the cry "Refuge, refuge, refuge!" Sinner, that is the way; walk thou therein and be thou saved.

I think I have thus given the explanation. Christ is the city of refuge, who preserves all those who flee to Him for mercy; He does that because He is the divinely-appointed Saviour, able to save unto the uttermost them that come unto God by Him.

II. We Have an Exhortation to Give

You must allow me to picture a scene. You see that man in the field. He has been at work; he has taken an ox-goad in his hand, to use it in some part of his husbandry. Unfortunately, instead of doing what he desires to do, he strikes a companion of his to the heart, and he falls down dead! You see the poor man with horror in his face; he is a guiltless man; but, O! what misery he feels when he sees the corpse lying at his feet! A pang shoots through his heart, such as you and I have never felt—horror, dread, desolation! Yes, some of us have felt something akin to it; we will not allude to the when and the wherefore; but who can describe the horror of a man at seeing his companion fall at his feet? Words are incapable of expressing the anguish of his spirit; he looks upon him, he takes him up—he ascertains that he is really dead.

What next! Do you not see him? In a moment he flies out of the field where he was at labor, and runs along the road with all his might; he has many miles before him, six long hours of hard running, and just as he passes the gate he turns his head and there is the man's brother! He has just come into the field and seen his brother lying dead. O! can you conceive how the man's heart palpitates with fear?

He has a little start upon the road. He just sees the other, with red face, hot and fiery, rushing out of the field, with the ox-goad in his hand, and running after him. The way lies through the village where the man's father lives; how he rushes through the streets! He does not even stop to bid good-by to his wife, nor kiss his children! But on, on he flies for his very life.

The relative calls his father and his other friends, and they all rush after him. Now, there is a troop on the road; the man is still flying ahead—no rest for him. Though one of his pursuers rests, the others still track him. There is a horse in the village; they take it and pursue him. If they can find any animal that can assist their swiftness, they will take it.

Can you not conceive him crying, "Oh, that I had wings that I might fly!" See how he spurns the earth beneath his feet! What to him the green fields on either hand; what the brooks; he stops not even so much as to wet his mouth. The sun is scorching him; but it is still on, on, on! He casts aside one garment after another; still he rushes on, and the pursuers are behind him. He feels like the poor stag pursued by the hounds; he knows they are eager for his blood, and that if they do but once overtake him it will be a word, a blow—dead! See how he speeds his way!

Now, do you see him? A city is rising into sight; he can see the

towers of the city of refuge; his weary feet almost refuse to carry him further; the veins are standing out on his brow, like whipcords; the blood spurts from his nostrils; he is straining to the utmost as he rushes on, and faster he would go if he were master of more strength. The pursuers are after him—they have almost reached him; but see, and rejoice! He has just got to the outskirts of the city; there is the line of demarcation; he leaps it, and falls senseless to the ground; and there is joy in his heart. The pursuers come and look at him; but they dare not slay him. The knife is in their hand, and the stones too, to stone him or draw his blood; but they dare not touch him. He is safe, he is secure; his running has been just fast enough; he has just managed to leap into the kingdom of life, and avoid death.

A Picture of Our Guilt Before God

Sinner, that picture I have given thee is a picture of thyself in all but the man's guiltlessness, for thou art a guilty man. O! if thou didst but know that the avenger of blood is after thee! O! that God would give thee grace that thou couldst have a sense of thy danger tonight! thou wouldst not then stop a solitary instant without flying to Christ. Thou wouldst say, even while sitting in thy pew, "Let me away, away, away, where mercy is to be found," and thou wouldst give neither sleep to thine eyes, nor slumber to thine eyelids, till thou hadst in Christ found a refuge for thy spirit.

I am come, then, to exhort thee tonight. Let me pick out one of you to be a case for all the rest; there is a young man here who is guilty; the proofs of his guilt lie at his feet tonight. He knows himself to be a great transgressor; he has foully offended against God's law. Young man, young man, certainly, as you are guilty, the avenger of blood is after you! O! he is a horrid thing, that avenger—God's fiery law; did you ever see it? It speaketh words of flame; it hath eyes like lamps of fire. If you could once see the law of God and mark the dread keenness of its horrible sword, you might, as you sat in your pew, quiver to death itself in horror at your doom.

Sinner, bethink thee, if this avenger get hold of thee, it will not be temporal death merely; it will be death eternally. Sinner, remember, if the law doth get its hand on thee, thou art damned; and dost thou know what damnation means?

Say, canst thou tell what are the billows of eternal wrath, and what the worm that never dies; what the lake of fire, what the pit that is bottomless? No, thou canst not know how dreadful these things are. Surely, if thou couldst, man, thou wouldst be up on thy feet and off for life, eternal life. Thou wouldst be like that man in Bunyan's *Progress* who put his fingers in his ears and ran away; and when his neighbors ran after him, he cried, "Eternal life, eternal life!"

O, stolid stupidity—O, sordid ignorance—O, worse than brutal ignorance, that makes men sit down in their sins and rest content. The drunkard quaffeth still his bowl; he knoweth not that in its dregs there lieth wrath. The swearer still indulgeth in his blasphemy; he knoweth not that one day his oaths shall return upon his own head. You will go your way and eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and live merrily and happily; but, ah! poor souls, if ye knew that the avenger of blood was after you, you would not act so foolishly!

Would you suppose that the man, after he had killed his neighbor, and when he saw the avenger coming, would coolly take his seat and wait, when there was a city of refuge provided? No; such folly was reserved for such as you are; God has left that folly to be the topstone of the folly of the human race, to be the most glittering jewel in the crown of free will, to be consummate folly—the dress wherein free will doth robe itself. O! you will not fly to Christ, you will stop where you are, you will

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Outside the Gate

(Continued from page 7)

lots and bums, as well as many respectable citizens. But many of the powers that were did not like the tabernacle. We preached hard against sin. Churches full of lodge members, churches where the Sunday School teachers attended picture shows and played bridge, where the pastors and deacons were members of lodges and smoked cigarettes, did not like that place. I preached hard against sin, and so the people said that we were fanatics. In the big popular church two blocks away, with thousands of members, the pastor smoked cigars and his daughter was an artist's model. In the pastor's meeting which I sometimes attended one-half of the pastors smoked cigars and cigarettes during the session of the ministers' meeting. You may be sure I was not very grateful for their example. The blessing of God was on our church. In one six months' period we counted 1,005 people who claimed to trust Christ as Saviour or who returned from backsliding sin. I suppose I baptized a hundred drunkards among hundreds of other converts taken into the church. But to one who does not win very many souls the evangelist seems "sensational" and "too emotional." To the person who does not believe that Christ will come again, as He said, the premillennialist, rejoicing in the blessed hope, is counted like Jehovah's Witnesses and other false cults. To those who care more for the "learning" of the big universities, one who believes in the verbal inspiration of the Bible and the scientific accuracy and historical correctness of the Word of God, is counted unscientific and, perhaps, very ignorant!

Do you live in the place of burning?

Not long ago at our home the water boiled away from a saucepan of cooking beans. The pot was burned black inside. The smoke billowed up and filled the whole house. The hideous smell seemed to enter every cranny and corner. We worked and worked to ventilate the house in mid-winter to try to get rid of the stink. I tell you, dear Christian, if your life is lived in the place of burning, constantly on the altar, there will be a stink that the world does not like.

I think that the bloody sin-offering bullock, burned outside the gate, may have been the beginning of the tradition about the Valley of Hinnom, later called Gehenna, a type of Hell, and even the word used for Hell sometimes in the New Testament. Here the carcasses were burning always. The bodies of criminals were cast out into the Valley of Hinnom, and the bodies of dead animals were piled there, too. Magots and fire together destroyed the offal. Very properly that desolate and dreadful place became a type of Hell. But I remind you that the Lord Jesus tasted death for every man. He died between two thieves. He suffered the tortures of the damned. Even now, He is, like Paul, the scourging of the world. In that sense Christians should suffer some of what wicked people deserve, in order to keep people out of Hell. Is your life a place of burning? Do you live in the place of reproach for Jesus' sake?

4. But This Place Outside the Gate, Where We Are to Go, Is, Thank God, a Place in the Presence of Jesus

Going unto Him! I would rather go to Jesus outside the gate than to live in the city, in the throng, in the palace, even on the throne, with anybody else or everybody else in the world!

Jessie Brown Pounds has said so well,

Anywhere with Jesus I can safely go;

Anywhere He leads me in this world below;

Anywhere without Him dearest joys would fade;

Anywhere with Jesus I am not afraid.

Anywhere, anywhere! Fear I cannot know;

Anywhere with Jesus I can safely go.

Here is our recompense. If we take the reproach of Christ we can have the power of Christ and the joy of His blessed presence.

Remember that it was to know Christ and the power of His resur-

rection and the fellowship of His suffering, even being made conformable to His death, that Paul suffered the loss of all things and counted them but dung.

Now, I want to tell you something wonderful that I found in the study of that sin-offering bullock, discussed in Leviticus 4:1-12. Please open your Bible and look carefully to see what I will now show you in the Word of God. In the first three chapters of Leviticus priests are mentioned again and again. The Scripture speaks of "the priests, Aaron's sons," and again "the sons of Aaron the priest" and "the priest," etc. Some twenty-two times in those three chapters the priests are mentioned, as I have described. But when we enter into the fourth chapter, describing the sin offering which is to be a special lesson for the separated, Spirit-filled Christians, then an added word is given about priests, Leviticus 4:3 says, "If the priest that is anointed do sin . . ."

And in verse 5 the Scripture says, "And the priest that is anointed shall take of the bullock's blood . . ." And again, in verse 16, which we did not discuss but speaking of the sin offering for the whole congregation, the Scripture says, "And the priest that is anointed shall bring of the bullock's blood . . ."

We know that priests in the Old Testament are types of Christians. Christians "shall be priests of God and of Christ" (Rev. 20:6). "And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth" (Rev. 5:10). First Peter 2:5 says that we are "an holy priesthood." Priests in the Old Testament picture Christians. But here are some "anointed" priests. And they surely must picture Spirit-filled Christians. Not every Christian is a Spirit-filled Christian. Not every person who has salvation has also soul-winning power. Every Christian has the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, but not every Christian has the fullness of the Spirit.

The lesson for us evidently is that only Spirit-filled Christians can really bear the reproach of Christ. The lesson in Leviticus 4:1-12 and in Hebrews 13:10-14 is for Spirit-filled Christians.

Remember that Jesus lived most of His first thirty years in Galilee at the little town of Nazareth. There He attended the synagogue and regularly read the Scriptures. He was blameless, sinless, perfect. He was a model young man, greatly respected. However, He had never preached a sermon, never healed the sick, never raised the dead, never won a soul, until He was thirty years old. Then He went to John the Baptist and was baptized in Jordan and there was filled with the Holy Spirit. Afterward He returned to Cana in Galilee and worked His first miracle at the wedding feast. Then Jesus came back to Nazareth where He was brought up, as the story is told in Luke 4:16-29. For the first time they heard Jesus when filled with the Holy Ghost. The One whom they had respected and honored, now they suddenly began to hate! A few moments after Jesus had told them He was filled with the Holy Spirit, according to the prophecy in Isaiah 61:1,2, they tried to cast Him headlong from the cliff outside the city! When Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit, He was then hated and persecuted.

Remember how Stephen, the first Christian martyr, was killed? It was because he was filled with the Holy Ghost. If we take on us the reproach of Christ, we have the fullness of the Spirit of God. And the persecution and the reproach which are here described as greatly to be desired, are for those who pay God's price for the fullness of His Spirit.

The soul winner, then, will be the one persecuted, slandered and abused. The one who enters into Christ's burden for sinners, into Christ's power of the Holy Spirit, will bear the reproach of Christ. But, praise God a thousand times, he will be where Jesus is! He will know the sweet presence of the dear Saviour.

Remember that Jesus said to His disciples who were to go, in the power of the Holy Spirit and preach the gospel to every creature, "And

lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Matt. 28:20).

5. "Let Us Go Forth Therefore Unto Him Without the Camp. . ."

It is clear that offering one's self for persecution, for ill report, for reproach, must be a matter of personal choice. You are not required to do this in order to be saved. Salvation is the free gift of God to all who come by simple faith and depend upon Jesus Christ. If a man should give his body to be burned that would not add one drop of merit to balance the ocean of his sins. Let us make no mistake, salvation is by the grace of God alone and Jesus Christ paid all that needed to be paid. When one offers to suffer for Jesus, to toil for Jesus, to be identified with the Lord Jesus whatever comes, that is the voluntary choice of one who is already a child of God, one already born again and certain for Heaven, by God's grace.

So the Scripture does not say, "You must go." But it says, "Let us go." In Romans 12:1,2 Paul does not command but he entreats. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice . . ." The body must be presented, it is not consecrated. The service of the Christian soldier must be that of a volunteer, not of a draftee. We remember that Moses chose "rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season" (Heb. 11:25). Knowing the eternal reward Moses made the intelligent choice. He chose poverty instead of wealth. He chose the place of a rebellious slave instead of the place of a kingly son, in the sight of the Egyptians. But he chose the place of an obedient prophet of God instead of a fleshly worldling.

So I ask you to choose today. Will you, by choice, go outside the gate unto Jesus, and help bear His reproach? Will you enter into His burden, His concern over sinners, His condemnation of sin, His offering of Himself?

Nobody will compel you to do it. You will not do it unless you choose to do it. If you chose before, you will need to choose again and again. Choose then today to please God instead of men, to receive your honor in the next world instead of in this world.

The answer is made for us in the words of that grand old hymn;

Jesus, I my cross have taken,
All to leave and follow Thee;
Destitute, despised, forsaken,
Thou, from hence, my all shalt be:

Perish every fond ambition,
All I've sought, and hoped, and known;
Yet how rich is my condition,
God and heaven are still my own!

Let the world despise and leave me,
They have left my Saviour, too;
Human hearts and looks deceive me;
Thou art not, like man, untrue;

And, while Thou shalt smile upon me,
God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate, and friends may shun me;
Show Thy face, and all is bright.

Man may trouble and distress me,
'Twill but drive me to Thy breast;
Life with trials hard may press me,
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest.

'Tis not in grief to harm me,
While Thy love is left to me;
'Twere not in joy to charm me,
Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

Haste thee on from grace to glory,

SWORD HELPS SPIRITUAL GROWTH

June 14, 1951

"Dear Friends in Christ:

"Just a brief note to tell you how much THE SWORD means to me and my family. The writings of Dr. Rice and other great men of God in THE SWORD have been a blessing to us. Whatever spiritual growth I have had in the months past, since my rebirth into the body of Christ, has been due in large measure to these writings. I have been convicted to lay many of my sins and hindrances upon his altar, among them masonic lodge membership and smoking."

Gilbert R. Hoffman,
Evansville 14, Indiana

Armed by faith and winged by prayer;

Heaven's eternal day's before thee,
God's own hand shall guide thee there.

Soon shall close thy earthly mission,

Swift shall pass thy pilgrim days,
Hope shall change to glad fruition,
Faith to sight, and prayer to praise. AMEN.

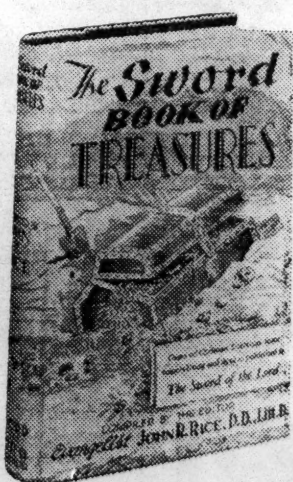
—Henry F. Lyte

Now let us come back to the text with which we started.

"We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle. For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp. Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come."—Heb. 13:10-14.

Are you living outside the gate with Jesus? Are you willing to bear the reproach of Christ?

WHAT'S IN A NAME?



What's in a name? In the case of the SWORD BOOK OF TREASURES, compiled and edited by Evangelist John R. Rice, there is very much in the name, for this grand book, including some of the best sermons written, could never be better named. Here is just what we mean:

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"There are twenty-one chapters, and each chapter is indeed a 'treasure,'" reports Dr. Robert G. Lee, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

"The book is well-named," says Dr. T. Roland Philips, pastor of the Arlington Presbyterian Church, Baltimore. "These twenty-one messages are indeed treasures."

"Every chapter truly is a treasure," scripturally sound, highly inspirational and classic in importance," remarks Dr. Farris D. Whitesell, professor at Northern Baptist Seminary.

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The Finnish Gold Story—S. D. Gordon.
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To Make You Think

Compiled by Porter Routh

From THE SURVEY BULLETIN, Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville 3, Tennessee.

IN THE WORLD OF RELIGION

A Chicago Roman Catholic layman has provided funds for building a \$100,000 Catholic church in Dickson, Tenn. There has not been a Catholic church in Dickson before.

The Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. will launch a campaign to raise \$12,000,000 to build new churches in new areas.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church gained 27,654 members in 1950 to bring its membership to 841,494.

In the U.S. House of Representatives, Methodists have 84 members, Roman Catholics 72, and Baptist 56.

FACTS OF INTEREST

June 24 marked the first anniversary of the outbreak of the war in Korea. There have been

73,604 casualties with 12,202 combat deaths. Cost of living has jumped 8.4 per cent during that year, and Congress has voted 9.9 billion in new taxes.

During the past 75 days the Federal Communication Commission has received only 976 complaints on TV programs. Of the total 255 opposed the use of liquor on TV programs, 221 opposed indecency, obscenity, and profanity. More should be sent.

BAPTIST HIGHLIGHTS

Southern Baptists went to the 94th session of their Convention at San Francisco, California, with registration near 6500. More than 300 messengers registered from Virginia, nearly 1500 from Texas.

J. D. Grey, New Orleans, La., pastor was elected president. At 45, he is the youngest and also the first graduate of Southwestern Seminary. Both vice-presidents are from the First Church, Waco, Forrest F. Feazor and W. R. White. Porter Routh and Joe W. Burton were re-elected secretaries with Duke K. McCall, treasurer.

The 1952 Convention will be in

Miami, the 1953 meeting in Houston, Texas. Ramsey Pollard, Tenn., will be the convention preacher with Robert Naylor, S. C., as alternate.

The 1951 Convention was marked by significant preaching rather than significant action.

On recommendation of the Committee on Relations with Other Religious Bodies, the Convention reaffirmed its conviction that Southern Baptists cannot enter any unionizing organization, and released the Home Mission Board and all other Southern Boards and agencies "to be free to serve as a source of blessing to any community or any people anywhere in the United States." However, in a later action, in adopting the report of the Committee on Alaskan petition, the Convention voted that "the Home Mission Board or any other agency desiring instruction from the Convention with reference to enlarging the territory in which it works may request such instruction in any session of the Convention upon the recommendation of the board of the agency."

The Convention approved a resolution urging Baptist young people not to enter into premarriage contracts with Catholics.

A 1952 Cooperative Program goal of \$10,000,000 was adopted with all above \$7,000,000 to be divided 75% of Foreign Missions and 25% to Home Missions. The first \$4,500,000 will be distributed on the usual percentages.

The Convention allocated an additional \$12,500 to the American Baptist Theological Seminary to assist in meeting needs.

Weather was near perfect for the meeting with adequate auditorium facilities, arrangements, and hotel rooms. The 11,000 seat auditorium was filled several times, with more than 15,000 present for the Youth Night service Saturday night.

Convention was saddened by news of death of Jeff D. Ray, long-time Southwestern Seminary professor, by death of five California Baptists in auto accident on way to Convention session.

The Texas Baptist Convention will be held October 22-25, Houston.

"They Say—"

"... You may mark my brother, Jack G—, off my prayer list as he was saved during our church revival. Mother takes THE SWORD, and he has read it some and Christianity is lived daily in the home before him.... I look forward to your paper and just drink in every word of it. May God continue to bless the fine work you people are doing in getting out the gospel and telling the old, old story."

Mrs. C— M. P—
Rocky Mount, N. C.

"Sometime ago I came across your pamphlet, 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?' I enjoyed it a great deal, and it has been a great blessing to certain members of our family and some close friends who are unsaved." Miss Carol Pogue
Wichita, Kans.

PHONOGRAPH RECORDS

78 R.P.M. (For Standard Phonographs and Record Players)

Here is a little information about some of the outstanding musicians featured on these records:



Mr. and Mrs. Howard Skinner—Mr. Skinner is a well-known Gospel singer with a rich baritone voice. He has been managing director since 1937 of the Maranatha Bible and Missionary Conference, Muskegon, Michigan. Mrs. Skinner sings with him and is featured alone on one of the records. You will enjoy the solos and duets by these Christian artists.

Ralph Nielsen—He is the regular soloist on the "Treasury of Music" program over WCFL, Chicago. His own program entitled "Songs of the Heart" carried by the Moody Bible Institute's radio station is very popular. Each week he appears as soloist and as a member of the Gospelaire's Male Quartet on the "America for God" broadcast over WENR, Chicago.



Merv Rosell—Internationally known evangelist and youth leader. He is a gifted musician and artist on his "singing Saxophone." Audiences all over the U.S. have thrilled to his music.



Don Hustad—Organist and pianist of distinctive artistic ability. He is director of the music department of the Moody Bible Institute. He leads the "Moody Chorale." He directs the "Club Aluminum" program broadcast over national hook-ups. A fine musician and a sincere Christian.



Frank Lehman, Albert Lane, Rita Gould, Johnnie Hope and his "Joyful Trio," **Crusaders Quintet, King's Karollers Trio, Gospel Truth Quartet, Gospelaire's Quartet,** and others complete the well-rounded gospel record library.

Crusaders Quintet

"Wonderful" (Lillenas)
Acc. Elenor Dlesk

King's Karollers Trio

"Christ Is Not a Disappointment" (Lowden)
Acc. Elenor Dlesk SR-101a-b

The Gospel Truth Quartet

"Look Away to Heaven" (Spiritual)
"The Old Time Religion" (Spiritual) SRC-102a-b
"Stepping In the Light" (Kirkpatrick)
"Christ Liveth in Me" (McGranahan) SRC-103a-b

Johnnie Hope and His "Joyful Trio"

"Jesus Is the One" (A. M. Pace)
Acc. Youth for Christ Instrumentalists
"Let Jesus Be Your Partner" (C. P. Gardner)
Johnny and Evelyn Hope
Acc. Youth for Christ Instrumentalists SRC-107a-b

Ralph Nielsen—tenor

"The Lord's Prayer" (Malotte)
"Green Pastures" (Sanderson)
Acc. Don Hustad—organ SR-108a-b

Albert A. Lane—pianist

"The Fight Is On" (Morris)
"Master the Tempest Is Raging" (Palmer) SR-109a-b

Ada Skinner—soprano

"Overshadowed" (Schuler)

Howard Skinner—baritone

"Contentment" (Dunlop) SS-1-2

The Skinners—duo vocal-piano

"Southern Melodies" (Spirituals)

The Skinners—duo piano

"No Not One" (Hug) SS-3-4-DD

The Skinners—duo vocal piano

"Spiritual Medley" including
"Joshua Fit de Battle of Jericho"

The Skinners—duo piano

"Onward Christian Soldiers" (Sullivan)
"Maranatha Chorus" (Savage) SS-5-6

Merv Rosell—singing sax

"Now I Belong to Jesus" (Clayton)
Howard Skinner—vocal chorus



Gospelaire's

GOSPELAIRE'S QUARTET

"Breath of Calvary" (Gordon E. Hooker)
Acc. Don Hustad—organ
"Only Trust Him" (J. H. Stockton)
Acc. Don Hustad—organ SR-104a-b
"Looking This Way" (Van de Venter)
Acc. Don Hustad—organ
"Lead Kindly Light" (Sandow)
Acc. Don Hustad—organ SR-105a-b
"Thou Your Sins Be As Scarlet" (Crosby)
Acc. Don Hustad—organ
"My Faith Looks Up to Thee" (Palmer)
Acc. Don Hustad—organ SR-106a-b

Maranatha Girls Trio

"Lord Send Me" (Savage)
Merv Rosell—sax obligato SS-7-8-DD

Howard Skinner—baritone

"O' Man River" (Kern)
"I'm a Wand'rin'" (Gaines) SS-12-13

Merv Rosell—singing sax

"At the End of the Road" (Ackley)
Howard Skinner—vocal chorus

Howard Skinner—baritone

"Zion's Hill" (Crutchfield) SS-14-15

Frank R. Lehman—baritone

"In the Garden" (C. Austin Miles)
Acc. Don Hustad
"I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked" (Geoffrey O'Hara)
Acc. Don Hustad SR-110a-b

Don Hustad—pipe organ

"Christmas Carols"
"Onward Christian Soldiers" (Sullivan) SS-16a-b-D

Don Hustad—organist

"Softly and Tenderly" (Will L. Thompson)
"Saved by Grace" (Geo. C. Stebbins) SS-17-a-b

Rita Gould—contralto

"The Love of God" (Lehman)
"Under His Wings" (Cushing-Sankey) SSC-1a-b

Rita Gould—contralto

"Down From His Glory" (Booth, di Capua)
"My Wonderful Lord" (Lillenas) SSC-5a-b



Frank Lehman



Crusaders

ALBUM 1

Maranatha Musicians

"Jewels" (Root)
Skinner duo-piano
"Wonderful, Marvelous, True" (Dunlop)
Don Hustad, pipe organ
"Singing" (Grimes)
Ada Skinner, soprano
"In Jesus" (Harkness)
Skinner, vocal duet
"Jesus, Sweet Name I Love" (Dunlop)
Howard Skinner, baritone
"I Have Found a Hiding Place" (Muller)
Howard Skinner, baritone

ALBUM RA-100-A

Merv Rosell—singing sax

"Down from His Glory" (Booth-Clibborn)
Acc. Lorin Whitney—organ
"My Father Watches Over Me" (Gabriel)
Acc. Lorin Whitney—organ
"Follow, I Will Follow Thee" (Brown)
Acc. Lorin Whitney—organ
"Beyond the Sunset" (Brock)
Acc. Lorin Whitney—organ
"His Eye Is on the Sparrow" (Gabriel)
Acc. Lorin Whitney—organ
"Pass Me Not, O Gentle Saviour" (Doane)
Acc. Lorin Whitney—organ

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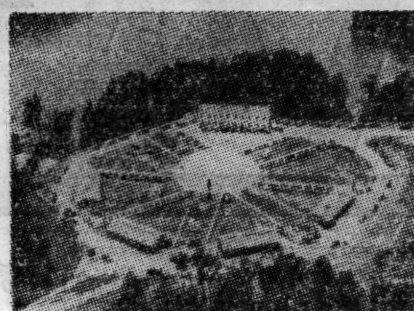
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Yours for a revival and heart, home, community and nation!

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 214 West Wesley,
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John R. Rice
 Director

The Editor's Notes

(Continued from page 5)

titute, college and seminary, now becomes a member of the panel of judges for the Sword Book Club. Dr. Robert G. Lee, wonderful man of God who has served so faithfully and well, feels compelled to resign because of extensive travelling and writing which he is now undertaking. We are so glad to have Dr. Roberson take his place as a judge of the Sword Book Club. Dr. Roberson is one of the most useful men in America. He is a sound, true, Spirit-filled preacher of the Word of God, pastor of one of the greatest soul-winning churches in the world. He will be a great help in selecting the best Christian books for those who belong to the Sword Book Club. If you have not joined, we hope you will do so at once. You will save lots of money, you need buy only those books which you want, but you will have the best information possible and the opinion of godly men about any book that you purchase. A circular of information will be sent free if you write the Sword of the Lord, Wheaton, Illinois, about the Sword Book Club. We praise the Lord for Dr. Roberson's help in this great work.

OUR HONORED CONTEMPORARY MAGAZINE, *The Faith and Southern Baptists*, for June has the following note: "Evangelist John R. Rice of Wheaton, Ill., recently joined the Highland Park Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tenn. Brother Rice was raised in a Baptist preacher's home near Wichita Falls, Texas, and received Baptist baptism early in life; but he has held so many union meetings that he has not been a very stanch Baptist for the past several years. We hope he is coming back to his first love." A stanch Baptist? Well, I haven't changed my doctrine. I believe in salvation by grace, a converted church membership, baptism of believers only, and by immersion, and in democratic congregational form of local church government. If these ancient Scriptural doctrines made me a stanch Baptist, then I still am one. But it is a mistake for our brother to talk about me "coming back to my first love." My first love is Jesus Christ and the Bible, not the Baptist denomination. I am for Baptists when they are right and against them when they are wrong, but I am for Jesus Christ all the time and for the Bible all the time, for they are never wrong. And I am for the people who love the Lord Jesus and are saved by the blood, and believe the Bible. Many Southern Baptists are concerned about what they call the tendency toward unionism. But some of them foolishly think it is all right to have full fellowship with Baptist infidels just so they don't mix up with people of other denominations! Our position is and has always been that we are for everybody who believes the Bible and is saved by the blood, and wants to do the one main thing Jesus commanded us to do. I do not vary my preaching a hair's breadth. I put more doctrine in my preaching than any man of one hundred of my Southern Baptist preacher friends. I never trim the corners. I never compromise, as God is my witness. But I am for getting the gospel to every creature. I am for preaching the gospel in large campaigns reaching just as many people as possible with the gospel and cooperating with all the people who love the Lord and believe in my kind of preaching and the kind of gospel which God has given me to preach. Please, Editor Rogers, do not ever leave the impression that my first love was ever a Baptist headquarters or a denominational name. My first love is the Lord Jesus and the Bible and the gospel. And to them I will be true until I die. If my Baptist friends can go along with that, then I am a stanch Baptist. Whenever they cannot go along with that, then we part company. And to that, let every good man and woman say, Amen!

A Correction!

In last weeks issue a request was made for loans to the Sword Of The Lord Foundation. A serious error made it appear that we pay more than 4% interest on loans to this non-profit Foundation. We are sorry about this mistake. Remember money loaned to this Corporation draws 4% interest each year. If you have some money which you want to invest for the Lord and for souls, write to us today for further information.

Address your letter to:

Dr. John R. Rice
 Sword of The Lord Foundation
 214 West Wesley
 Wheaton, Ill.

THE SAME GOOD MAGAZINE mentioned above, *The Faith and Southern Baptists*, on the same page where Editor Rogers hopes that Evangelist John R. Rice is coming back to his first love, the magazine has a good advertisement for the sermon, "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God," by Jonathan Edwards. Jonathan Edwards, however, was not a Baptist! On the same page also is a good ad on John Gill's famous book, *Body of Divinity*. In the same issue of the magazine, the magazine's own book house advertises books by Spurgeon, G. Campbell Morgan, Gill, L. E. Maxwell, Barnes, the famous Presbyterian; Calvin (the father of Presbyterianism), Matthew Henry's commentary, the *Apocalypse* by Seiss, a Lutheran theologian, with the comment "Best Commentary on Revelation," and many others. Now I wonder if our brother is slipping and getting away from his good Baptist heritage? Spurgeon quit the Baptist union of Great Britain Island because of what he called "the down grade movement," that is, modernism. Calvin and Barnes were great Presbyterians. Doesn't our brother find that the truth of God is more important than denominational headquarters? And why should I not associate in revival campaigns with the same kind of people that he associates with in his bookstore, and advertises so widely in his paper? And in working in union revival campaigns with Bible-believing churches and pastors, I follow in the steps of Spurgeon, George W. Truett, Robert G. Lee, and many others who put Jesus Christ and the Bible first, and denominational names second.

OUR READERS SAY . . .

"I have received so many blessings by reading the wonderful paper, *SWORD OF THE LORD*. I let my neighbor read it. She says it helped her understand the Bible so much better. I get other religious papers. I like *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* best of all."

Mrs. Tina Tidwell
 Downsville, La.

"It was a great pleasure to me to know that a good friend subscribed *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* for me. I have read some of them, and have translated some good news and published in the Methodist paper in Brazil. I am interested in the great movement of revival and in preaching about the Person and the Work of the Holy Spirit. I am sure, absolutely sure, that the greatest necessity of the church today is a revival; we are praying for it. May God send us His Holy Spirit and awake all our brethren throughout the world. I beg you excuse my English. It is made in Brazil."

Epaminondas Moura
 Volta Redonda,
 E. do Rio, Brazil.

"I am sending my renewal subscription for *THE SWORD OF THE LORD*. We enjoy so much reading the fine sermons each week. We look forward to getting it each week in time for Sunday reading. May God continue to bless all of you."

Anna McMurray
 Salem Ill.

The Sinner's Refuge

(Continued from page 8)

rest contented, and one day the law will seize you, and then wrath, eternal wrath, will lay hold upon you! How foolish is the man who wastes his time and carelessly loiters, when the city of refuge is before him, and when the avenger of blood is after him!

Suppose, now, I take another case. I have a young man here who says, "Why, sir, it is no use trying to be saved; I shall not think of prayer, or faith, or anything of that sort, because there is no city of refuge for me." Why, suppose that poor man who had killed his neighbor had said that; suppose he had sat still, and folded his arms, and said, "There is no city of refuge for me." You do not mean what you say. If you thought there was no city of refuge for you, I know what you would do; you would shriek, and cry, and groan.

There is a kind of despair that some people have which is a sham despair. I have met with many who say, "I do not believe I ever could be saved," and they seem not to care whether they are saved or not. Why, man, how foolish would he be who would sit still because he fancied there was no entrance for him into the city, and let the avenger slay him! But your folly is just as great and worse, if you sit still and say, "He will never have mercy on me." He is as much a suicide who refuses the medicine, because he thinks it will not cure him, as the man who takes the dirk and stabs himself to the heart.

You have no right, sir, to let your despair triumph over the promise of God. He hath said it, and He means it: "Whosoever calleth on the name of the Lord shall be saved." If He has shown you your guilt, depend upon it, there is a city of refuge for you; haste thee to it; haste thee to it; may God help you to betake yourselves to it now!

Ay, if men knew how dreadful is the wrath to come, and how terrible is judgment, how swiftly would they fly! There is not a hearer of mine here who would delay an hour to fly to Christ if he did but know how fearful is his condition out of Christ.

Jesus Christ, the only Refuge for Sinners

When God the Spirit once convinces us of our sin, there is no halting then; the Spirit says, "Today, if you will hear his voice," and we say, "Today, Lord, today, hear our voice!" There is no halting then; there is no pausing then; it is on, on, on, for our very life; and I beseech you, men, brethren, you who have sinned against God and know it; you who want to be delivered from the wrath to come, I beseech you, by Him that liveth and was dead, flee to Christ; but take this exhortation, take heed it is Christ you flee to; for if the man who had slain his neighbor had fled to another city, it would have been of no avail; had he fled to a city that was not an ordained city of refuge, he might have sped on with all the impetuosity of desire, and yet have been slain within the city gates. So, ye self-righteous ones, ye may fly on to your good works, ye may practice your baptism, and your confirmation, and your church going, and your chapel going; ye may be all that is good and excellent, but ye are flying to the wrong city, and the avenger of blood will find you, after all.

Poor soul! remember Christ Jesus is the only refuge for a guilty sinner: His blood, His wounds; His agonies, His sufferings, His death these, then, are the gates and walls of the city of salvation. But if we trust not in these, without a doubt, trust where we may, our hope shall be as a broken reed, and we shall perish after all.

I may have one here who is just awakened, just led to see his sin, as if it were a murdered corpse beneath his feet; it seems to me that God has sent me to that one man in particular. Man, God has shown you your guilt; He sent me tonight to tell you

that there is a refuge for you; though you are guilty, He is good; though you have revolted and rebelled, He will have mercy on those who repent, and trust in the merits of His Son.

And now He has bidden me say to you, "Fly, fly, fly!" In God's name, I say to you, fly to Christ. He has bidden me warn you tonight against delays; He has bidden me remind you that death surprises men when least they expect it; He has bidden me to warn you that the avenger will not spare, neither will his eye pity. His sword was forged for vengeance, and vengeance it will have. And He has bidden me exhort you by the terrors of the law, by the day of judgement, by the wrath to come, by the uncertainty of life, and by the nearness of death, this night to fly to Christ.

"Haste, traveler, haste, the night comes on:

And thou far off from rest and home:

Haste, traveler, haste!"

But, O how much more earnest is our cry when we say, "Haste, sinner, haste." Not only doth the night come on; but, lo! the blood avenger is behind. Already he has slain his thousands. Let the shrieks of souls, already damned, come up in your ears. Already the avenger has done wonders of wrath; let the howlings of Gehenna startle you; let the torments of Hell amaze you. What! will you stop with such a sword behind you? will you pause with such an avenger in swift pursuit? What! young man, will you stop this night? God has convinced you of your sin; will you go to your rest this night without a prayer? Will you live another day without fleeing to Christ?

No; I think I see the Spirit of God in you tonight, and I think I hear what He makes you say. He makes you say, "No, God helping me, I give myself to Christ now; and if He will not now shed abroad His love in my heart, yet this is my one resolve; no slumber to my eyes will I afford till Christ shall look on me and seal my pardon with His Spirit—the pardon bought with blood." But if thou sittest still, young man, and thou wilt do so, left to thy own free will, I can do no more for thee than this, I must weep for thee in secret.

Hell Awaits Those Who Heed Not God's Warning

Alas! for thee, my hearer; alas! for thee; the ox led to the slaughter is more wise than thou; the sheep that goeth to its death is not so foolish as thou art. Alas! for thee, my hearer, that thy pulse should beat a march to Hell. Alas! that yonder clock, like the muffled drum, should be the music of the funeral march of thy soul. Alas! alas! that thou shouldst fold thine arms in pleasure when the knife is at thy heart. Alas! alas! for thee, that thou shouldst sin and make merriment when the rope is about thy neck, and the drop is tottering under thee. Alas! for thee, that thou shouldst go thy way and live merrily and happily, and yet be lost. Thou remindest me of the silly moth that dances round about the flame, singeing itself for a while, and then at last plunging to its death. Such art thou!

Young woman, with thy butterfly clothing, thou art leaping round the flame that shall destroy thee. Young man, light and frothy in thy conversation, gay in thy life, thou art dancing to Hell; thou art singing thy way to damnation, and promenading the road to destruction. Alas! alas! that ye should be spinning your own winding sheets; that ye should every day by your sins be building your own gallows; that by your transgressions ye should be digging your own graves, and working hard to pile the faggots for your own eternal burning. O! that ye were wise, that ye understood this, that ye would consider your latter end. O! that ye would flee from the wrath to come.

O! my hearers, the wrath to come, the wrath to come! O, God! how terrible! these lips dare not

venture to describe, this heart fillet in agony; and, my hearers, are there not some of you that will soon be in the wrath to come? Yes, yes! there are some of you who, if you were now to drop dead in your pews, must be damned. Ah! ye know it; ye know it; ye dare not deny it; I see you know; as you hang down your heads, you seem to say it is true; I have no Christ to trust to, no robe of righteousness to wear, no Heaven to hope for. My hearer, give me thine hand; never did father plead with son with more impassioned earnestness than I would with thee. Why wouldst thou sit still when Hell is burning in thy face. "Why will ye die, O house of Israel!"

O God! must I preach to these people in their place in Hell; and must I continue to preach to them, and be "a savor of death unto death to them," and not "a savor of life unto life?" And must I, must I, help to make their Hell more intolerable? Must it be so? Must the people who now listen to us, like the people of Chorazin and Bethsaida, have a more terrible doom than the people of Sodom? Ah! yes, the Lord hath said it, and we believe it. O! ye that are left to your own free will, to choose the way to Hell, as all men do when left alone—let these eyes run down with tears for ye, because ye will not weep

for yourselves.

Strange, strange, that I should feel more for some of your souls than you do for yourselves! My God knoweth, there is not a stone that I would leave unturned to save each one of you; there is nought that human strength could do, or human study would learn, which I would not seek after, if I might but be the instrument of saving you from Hell; and yet you act as though it concerned you not, whom it should concern the most; it is my business, but it is far more yours.

Sirs, if ye be lost, remember, it is yourselves that will be lost, if ye perish, ye perish; I am clean of your blood. If ye flee not from the wrath to come, I have warned you; I could not bear to have the blood upon my head which some, even of those who like sound doctrine, I fear, will have at the last day of account. I tremble for some I know who preach God's gospel, in some sense fully, but who never warn sinners.

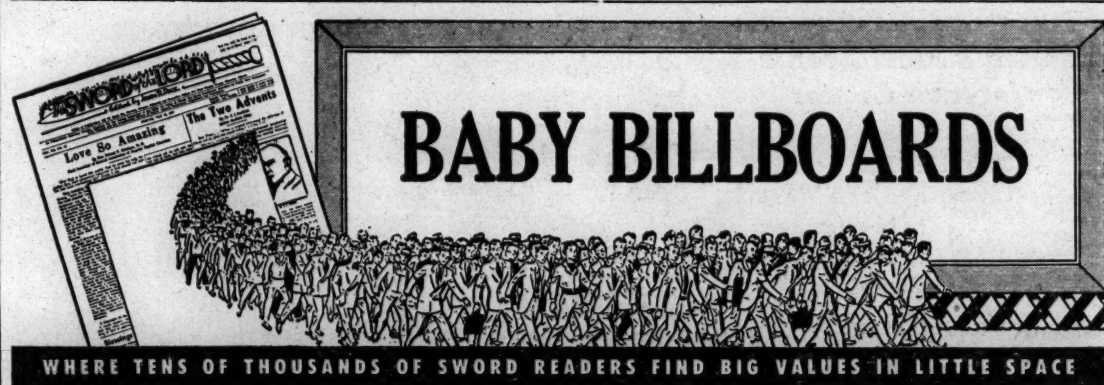
A member of my church said to me lately, "I heard such a one preach; a sound doctrine man he is called. I heard him preach for nine years, attending the theater all the time. I could curse, I could swear, I could sin, and I never heard a warning from that man's lips the whole nine years."

Ah! my God, my God, let this world hiss me; let me wear the

coat that sparkleth, and the cap that garnisheth a fool. Let earth condemn me, and let the fools of the universe spurn me; but free me from the blood of my hearers! By God's grace, again I register the vow, God helping me; the only thing I seek in this world is to be faithful to my hearers' souls. If you are damned, it is not for want of preaching to, nor for want of earnest warning.

Young men and maidens, old men with gray hairs, merchants and tradesmen, servants, fathers, mothers, children, I have warned you this night, you are in danger of Hell, and as God liveth, before whom I stand, you will be there soon unless you flee from the wrath to come. Remember, none but Jesus can save you. But if God shall enable you to see your danger, and fly to Christ, He will have mercy upon you forever, and the avenger of blood will never find you out. No, not even when the red lightnings shall be flashing from the hand of God in the day of judgment. That city of refuge shall shelter you, and in the heart of Jesus, triumphant, blessed, secure, you shall sing the righteousness and the blood of Christ who shelters sinners from the wrath to come.

(From the Book *Sermons of the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon of London*, third series. Published by Sheldon Blakeman & Company, 1857.)



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